

INDEPENDENT 50p (Republic of Ireland 65p)

Women can keep taking pill, say European experts

LIZ HUNT Health Editor

The European drug regulatory authority has rejected controversial government advice on the oral contraceptive Pill, suggesting there is no need for British women to stop taking seven of the most popular brands.

The expert group refused to bow to British and German pressure to warn millions of women to stop taking them because of fears of blood clotting. The advice of the Committee for Proprietary Medicinal Products (CPMP) is not binding on the 15 national drug regulatory authorities of members of the European Union - many of whom disagreed with the British decision - but will certainly influence guidance locally in these countries.

Schering Health Care, which makes three of the Pills designated "unsafe" by British drug authorities, welcomed the CPMP's decision. "We are very pleased that the CPMP have reinforced the company's confidence in its products but we retain our surprise and disappointment at the [Government] decision last week."

The Committee on Safety of Medicines last week advised 1.5 million women taking Pills containing the synthetic progestogens, desogestrel and gestodene, to change to another brand. Three independent studies had found that these Pills had twice the risk of venous thrombosis than other brands containing different progestogens.

The CSM's decision has been widely criticised by doctors, family planning experts and scientists who say that the decision was "premature and irresponsible," causing widespread anxiety in women. It has also been suggested - and denied by the Department of Health - that the increased cost of the new Pills was a driving force in the decision.

Following a two-day meeting in London, CPMP experts said: "In view of its benefit/risk re-assessment, the CPMP did not consider it appropriate to withdraw combined oral contraceptives containing gestodene or desogestrel."

The committee agreed that the three studies "indicate a somewhat greater risk of non-fatal venous thromboembolic events" but pointed out that the risk of blood clots with all combined oral contraceptives is still "substantially" less than that in pregnancy.

The statement reminded doctors and women of the existing contra-indications for the use of combined oral contraceptives including a history of or existing venous thrombosis, cerebrovascular or cardiovascular diseases, obesity, and varicose veins.

The committee has asked the three main Pill manufacturers, Schering, Organon and Wyeth, to provide more data on the safety of their products before the end of the year, and said it would review it by April 1996, when further advice would be expected.

A spokesman for the Department of Health said that it welcomed the CPMP's conclusion that there is a twofold increase in clotting risk with the Pills. "This is consistent with the advice we have taken steps to pass on."

MORE INDEPENDENT ON SATURDAY

Buy the Independent today and get the Independent on Sunday for only 10p

see page 2

Losers' fury at decision on Channel 5

Shock as top bidder thrown out

MATTHEW HORSMAN and RHYSS WILLIAMS

UKTV, the highest bidder, at £36m a year for the 10-year licence, issued a terse statement. "Considering that we were the highest bid, and are confident that we exceeded every other threshold, our group will be meeting shortly to review the decision." The group is understood to have arranged meetings with legal counsel on Monday to see whether there are grounds for judicial review of the ITC decision.

The ITC failed both bids on the grounds of programme quality, and specifically questioned Virgin TV's plans on the provision of news services. No criticisms were made of the two business plans or proposals to return as many as 4m video recorders up and down Britain to allow viewers to receive the new signal.

The mood at Channel 5 Broadcasting, made up of Pearson, media and financial services company MAI and European broadcaster CLT, was ebullient. Mr Dyke said: "We are delighted. Running a television channel is the best fun in the world."

Mr Dyke formerly ran LWT, the weekend ITV service in London, until Granada took it over in 1993. The creator of Roland Rat and the man who brought Blind Date and The Gladiators to the British viewing public, he joined Pearson's television arm earlier this year. MAI controls two ITV licences, Anglia and Meridian. Pearson also owns Thames Television, formerly the holders of the London weekday licence and the producers of such hits as The Bill. Rival bidders suggested the ITC preferred established players over newcomers: "These are the people [ITC Chairman] George Russell is comfortable with," said one insider. "How does this achieve diversity? This is just ITV2."

Frank Barlow, chief executive of Pearson, said "We were asked to provide a diverse service, with something for everyone. That, I am convinced, is what we have done."

Channel 5 Broadcasting intends to televise a mix of light entertainment, sports, drama and public affairs, and has a programming budget of about £10m a year. The service is due to start on 1 January 1997, and will be available to about 70 per cent of British homes.

According to the ITC, the variety and diversity of the proposed schedule met all conditions of the licence.

Virgin TV, which had proposed what it called an innovative and diverse range of programming, accused the ITC of opting for a channel "very similar to the existing four."

New Century Television, the fourth bidder, was also passed on all tests. But its bid of only £2m, compared to Channel 5 Broadcasting's £22m, ensured it would lose.

"We have no regrets," said Sam Chisholm, chief executive of BSkyB, the satellite and cable broadcaster controlled by Rupert Murdoch, and the leading partner in the New Century consortium. "If Channel 5 Broadcasting can make the channel work, good luck to them."

Channel 5 is expected to take an audience share away from the other main commercial channels, ITV and Channel 4. Most analysts forecast a market share of about 15 per cent. On that basis, Channel 5 Broadcasting expects to be able to break even within three years.

Programme details, page 3

David Steel's son jailed over drugs



JOHN ARLIDGE Scotland Correspondent

The son of Sir David Steel, the former Liberal leader, was jailed for nine months yesterday for growing cannabis at his cottage in the Scottish Borders.

Graeme Steel, 29, admitted growing the illegal drug at his home, Mitchellson Farm, at Stow, Selkirkshire, between April 1993 and October last year. He told police he believed it should be legalised.

The High Court in Edinburgh heard that police found 40 cannabis plants worth up to £30,000 when they raided the cottage following a tip-off. They also found four pipes for smoking cannabis and booklets on how to grow it. Steel admitted producing the drug but said it was for his own use.

Steel's girlfriend, Lynne Turnbull, 28, was cleared at an earlier court appearance after pleading not guilty to a similar charge. Steel appeared in court yesterday for sentencing. Neither Sir David, nor his wife, Lady Steel, attended.

The Judge, Lord Cameron of Lochbroom, told the court he would be failing in his duty if he did not impose a custodial sentence. As he was led to the cells, Steel, sporting a pony-tail, gave a thumbs-up to Miss Turnbull and his supporters.

The proceedings were watched from the public gallery by Rosalind Henderson, 44, the wife of a Scottish lawyer, who is on bail pending an appeal after being jailed for 18 months earlier this year for growing cannabis at her Perthshire home.

Green fingers, page 2

WEEKEND

Helmut Newton: grand old man of pornochic

Joan Smith and Malcolm Bradbury on Kingsley Amis

Landlords: How to deal with them

The ghost train service nobody knows about

MAGAZINE

French champagne back on sparkling form

Emily Green finds the perfect country pub

IN BRIEF

Rate cut hopes fade

Hopes of a cut in US interest rates faded when estimates of Gross Domestic Product showed the American economy had sprinted ahead. Page 19

Fears for Yeltsin

Boris Yeltsin's heart ailment is feared to be worse than originally admitted. Page 10

Tumim's jail warning

Judge Stephen Tumim has warned that jabs could turn into concentration camps. Page 2

Today's weather

Fine and breezy for most areas after early fog. Page 2

Tory MP says party biased against Asians

STEPHEN GOODWIN

A west London Conservative Party branch has been attacked by its own MP for discouraging Sikhs from joining.

Although he is well-known for his tough line on immigration, Terry Dicks has attributed his decision to leave the Hayes and Harlington seat to the local party's unwelcoming attitude.

"Sikhs are damn good Tories, hard-working people, yet they appear not to be welcome. I'd rather stand in a safe Labour seat," Mr Dicks says on BBC2's Around Westminster programme to be broadcast tomorrow.

More than 10 per cent of the electorate in Hayes and Harlington are Black or Asian. Mr Dicks reckons that there are something like 10,000 Sikhs in the constituency and says that they have been "discouraged" from joining the party's association and the local Conservative club.

"I find that appalling. It's been going on for far too long and I won't have any part of it any more," he said.

However news of Mr Dicks' disenchantment with the seat he has represented since 1983 comes as no surprise. It is the most marginal Conservative constituency in the South-east, with a majority of just 53, and is the second most marginal in the country.

Mr Dicks, aged 58 and a plain-speaking right-winger, has joined what is known as the "chicken run" in search of a safer seat. In August he failed to win the candidature of St Ives, Cornwall.

"When we've had elections and Sikhs have helped me in car parks and down the road and not come into the club," Mr Dicks says on the programme. "When we had a party to celebrate my victory I asked if they could be invited and the answer was 'no'."

The MP's charges were rejected last night by representatives of both the association and the Conservative club. Mary O'Connor, chairman of the association, said local Tories embraced everyone in exactly the same way.

The Conservative club secretary, Alex Freckleton, said: "I haven't seen him [Mr Dicks] in our club for years and years. I was the secretary of Southall cricket club for 17 years and I have a lot of very good friends who are Sikhs."

Describing Mr Dicks' claims as "rubbish", Mr Freckleton added: "So far as I am concerned there is no colour bar in the club. I have no colour prejudice at all."

9 770951 946269

WHY DEPEND ON MYSTIC MEG TO PREDICT YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE?

Straighten out your life with careful financial planning from our experts. For further details call into your nearest branch, or phone us free on 0800 100 888 Monday to Friday 8.00am to 9.00pm or Saturday 8.00am to 4.00pm, quoting reference A349F.

ABBEY NATIONAL The habit of a lifetime

W172

حکذا من الاصل

Channel 5 franchise: 'Modular' approach to schedule will establish regular slots for game shows, comedy, fiction and fact

Translating the black and white into colour

RHYS WILLIAMS
Media Correspondent

The desire to be a "truly national channel" that "helps people feel good about themselves, and about life in Britain" looks fine in the black and white of Channel 5 Broadcasting's application - but how will translate into colour on screen?

Channel 5 Broadcasting's big programming idea is the "modular schedule". Translated into English, that means the network will broadcast particular types of programmes at the same time each weekday, and in some cases, at weekends.

The weekday peak-time drama module, for example, will contain film as well as new and classic drama. Greg Dyke said yesterday that the proportion of original productions would be limited to around 20 hours in the first year. The network would draw on Thames Television's and Anglia's extensive programme libraries, which include classic series such as *Minder*, *The Sweeney*, *Edward and Mrs Simpson*, *Rumpole of the Bailey* and *Van Der Valk*.

Other major series, such as *The Chief* and *PD James' Mysteries*, will be scheduled as rights become available. However, Mr Dyke insisted that the channel would not be over-reliant on re-runs. "You've got to get the balance right. If you put out a pile of repeats, you will alienate the audience."

There will also, therefore, be specially commissioned work. On weekday evenings, *Lifeline* will follow the lives of a group of mainly young people who work in two neighbouring hospitals in a small English town. It will be repeated on weekday mornings and in a Sunday omnibus edition.

The Bill meets *Fame* in a drama series about the loves and lives of a class of trainee policemen and women called *Jericho Lane*, while *DJs* charts the fortunes of a campaigning, inner-city legal aid practice.

Acquired feature films will run on Sundays, Mondays and Fridays in peak time, with original cinema versions of hard-hitting movies appearing in a midnight slot called *Uncut*.

News will be supplied by ITN, with coverage based on short bulletins on the hour, every hour, except during programmes lasting more than an hour. There will also be a 20-minute bulletin at 8pm each evening, Mr Dyke said the network's bulletins would work harder to reflect European and environmental issues.

Game and quiz shows will fill the early evening schedule. Several formats are under review - *Gambit*, which is based on the card game Pontoon; *Hot Streak*, in which men compete with women to describe something simple without using the obvious words; *Television Scrabble* and *Fibs and Tibs*, a medical-based quiz show hosted by Tony Slattery.

Initial comedy output will be made up of US imports such as *Sisters*, *Empty Nest*, an Emmy award-winning series about a widowed doctor and his adult daughters, and *You Again*, a US version of the UK series *Home to Roost*, in which a divorced man and teenage son try to live together.

Continuing Mr Dyke's theme of trying to offer "something for different people at different times of the day", the network will also broadcast a late night show called *5 Late* for a youth audience, which will showcase new comedy and talent. "I hope it will be a bit risqué," he said.

Mentorn, which produced *Challenge Anneka* and Gerry Anderson's *Space Precinct*, will supply *Time Out*, a daily live entertainment and critical listings programme covering TV, film, music and theatre.

An afternoon magazine show pitched mainly at women, called *PM*, will, the company says, attempt to offer a more challenging alternative to the standard daytime fare of health, beauty and soap stars.

Channel 5 Broadcasting said it would not spend money on bidding wars for sports rights. Instead funds would be channelled into original programmes such as *The Big Sports Preview*, in which four former international sporting stars preview the weekend's key sporting action.

What you could see on the new station

EVENING/LATE NIGHT CHANNEL 5

5.00 News; Weather
5.05 Fibs and Tibs: Tony Slattery hosts the medical quiz show.
5.30 You Again: US father-and-son situation comedy.
6.00 News; Weather
6.30 Lifeline (new soap). Junior Doctor Dave finds the long hours are getting him down at Bulchester General Hospital. Will aspirin vet Donna be able to ease his troubled mind?
7.00 News; Weather
7.05 Rumpole of the Bailey (ppt).
8.00 News; Weather
8.40 Focus on Five: In-depth analysis of one of tonight's main stories.
9.00 News; Weather
9.10 Dallas: Repeats of old episodes with JR, Sue Ellen and Co.
10.00 News; Weather
10.30 Last Things: Jeffrey Archer tries to promote his latest book, and The Cranberries play live in the studio.
11.00 News; Weather
11.10 5 Late - Strictly No Trainers: Bob Monkhouse continues the search for tomorrow's stars.
12.00 Sport: Highlights of today's S-a-side Light Heavyweight Boxing Championships.
1.00am Uncut: Features film which hasn't been cut. Compiled by Ben Summers.

Saturday 28 October



Celebration: Greg Dyke, chief executive of Pearson (left), with John Hambley, bid director for Channel 5, yesterday after winning the franchise for the new television network. Photograph: Geraint Lewis

Television's populist supreme finally wins his kingdom

REBECCA FOWLER

He is the man most famous for the common touch, who brought *Blind Date*, the *Gladiators*, and *Roland Rat* to Britain's homes. But Greg Dyke was cracking open the champagne with characteristic flamboyance yesterday after finally winning his own television kingdom.

Mr Dyke, 48, celebrating his victorious bid for Channel 5 as chief executive of Pearson Television, is known as one of the largest personalities in the media world. He has been lauded by colleagues as the "rudest", "loveliest", "most ambitious" and "human" executives they have worked with.

In a career spanning almost two decades, Mr Dyke led a populist revolution. He first rose to national fame in 1983 when he transformed a failing TV-am by passing high-profile presenters with a cockney puppet rat and Anne Diamond. Ratings went from 200,000 to 1.6 million in a year.

A puppet rat and 'Blind Date' have been the highs of Greg Dyke's colourful career

His latest victory was welcomed by former colleagues and competitors. Nick Elliot, the head of drama at ITV Network Centre, praised Mr Dyke as a businessman and also as a "character" who is famous for his humour and socialist sympathies.

"He's enormous fun, a bit of a show-off who is driven by the business but never forgets the people side of things," Mr Elliot said.

Mr Dyke's background did not obviously lend itself to a career as one of the richest and most powerful men in television. He grew up in Hayes, Middlesex, left school at 16 and became a Sixties hippie and social campaigner, and later a Labour candidate. When he was 24 he read politics at York University, but has never lost his distrust of intellectualism.

He worked as a newspaper reporter but at 30 he found him-

self unemployed before joining London Weekend Television as a researcher, rising to producer of *The Six O'clock Show*.

After leading TV-am to success, he completed a course at Harvard Business School and returned to head up LWT. "One of them had signed my farewell card 'F*** off Dyke', so he was glad to see me back," he said.

Mr Dyke slashed the staff by more than half, and removed the lavish system of perks. He reconciled it with his principles on the basis that LWT paid out generous redundancies.

Mr Dyke acknowledges the trappings of success are sometimes uneasy with socialism. After a trip to Ghyndebourne, he turned to Sue, his partner, in the back of a chauffeured limousine, champagne glass in hand, and said: "You know what Sue? We've become the people we used to want to throw bombs at."

But Mr Dyke has built his career on being a so-called man of the people. He recognised the mass appeal of television personalities such as Cilla Black and Michael Barrymore, and had an instinct for scheduling.

When he left his £134,000 job at LWT after Granada took over, he was £10m the richer alongside fellow directors under a share option scheme.

After a year in the wilderness he joined Pearson, regarded as a blue-blooded establishment stuffed with Old Etonians. According to his friends, Mr Dyke will continue popular programming, but will also use Channel 5 to secure his own reputation.

"He's already proved he's got a very successful popular touch, but he cares about British programming, and he wants to leave his mark," said Roger Bolton, an independent producer. "He may have left LWT with a lot of money but he felt very bruised seeing it taken over by other people. He still has something to prove."

Channel 5 wins a warm welcome

RHYS WILLIAMS

Broadcasters and politicians welcomed the Independent Television Commission's decision to award the licence to operate Britain's fifth terrestrial channel to Channel 5 Broadcasting as a triumph of quality over cash.

Many were also pleased to see Greg Dyke, one of the industry's most charismatic performers, back from the fringe and into the mainstream of British television.

Under the 1990 Broadcasting Act, the commission had to award the licence to the highest bidder, provided that it could fulfil programming obligations and financially sustain the service over the 10-year licence period.

UKTV topped the auction with a staggeringly high tender of £36,261,158, followed by Channel 5 Broadcasting and Virgin Television, who both bid (coincidentally) £22,002,000. New Century Television, a consortium including Granada and BSkyB, trailed at just £2m.

Contrary to speculation, UKTV's bid was rejected. The commission expressed doubt yesterday over the ability of UKTV "to secure sufficient programming of high quality". It said that the consortium was too reliant on a single supplier, and repeats would have

accounted for 50 per cent of output - "higher than for any other applicant".

Virgin Television's bid founded on its proposed news service which, for the first five years, would have consisted of short hourly bulletins, compiled by a "small" news staff with "insufficient provision for editorial supervision". There was concern too that no post for a director of programmes had been proposed, leading to fears of an unduly heavy burden on the chief executive. Virgin had failed to provide "satisfactory evidence" that it could deliver high-quality output, in a schedule seen as overly dependent on drama, entertainment and

children's programmes.

That left two bids which the ITC felt had passed the quality threshold - Channel 5 Broadcasting and New Century Television. The former's £20,002,000 bid carried the day.

Before the Channel 5 Broadcasting's new service begins on 1 January 1997, the company faces the task of re-tuning every video recorder in its transmission area, to avoid channel interference. Despite fears of a burglary epidemic through bogus re-tuners, all bidders were confident that the work could be carried out smoothly, and, once this has been done, Channel 5 will reach 70 per cent of Britain's television viewers.

INDEPENDENT special offer

Buy it for 10p tomorrow and read ...

This coupon will be sent to your newspaper tomorrow (29 October) and can be used to buy the Independent on Sunday for just 10p.

(Please deliver this coupon to your newspaper retailer tomorrow, 29 October, and present this coupon to get your 10p discount.)

Reader's name: _____
Address: _____

Are you a regular 10p reader? YES/NO _____

Retailer's name: _____
Retail address: _____

Box number: _____ Supplying wholesaler: _____

No other restrictions. Please accept this coupon as part payment for the Independent on Sunday 29 October 1995 (price to be paid by the reader: United Kingdom & ROI £1.00). Return the completed coupon to your wholesaler by 4 November 1995 for cashed value and 30 November 1995 for home delivery customers who will credit you with the cash value plus a 2p handling charge. **WEEKEND**

In the Sunday Review

Christian Clancy in search of the ideal English village

Matthew Parris on the end of the world

In the Real Life

Are you ever wanted to know about breasts

In the gallery with the Rose West trial junkies

Plus

Claire Tomalin on Jane Austen

Starting tomorrow: five and a car go to France for just £25

A chance to win a Beatles CD box set



If you'd like to know more about Mr. Jack Daniel and his unique whiskey, write to the Jack Daniel Distillery, Lynchburg, Tennessee USA.

WATCH OUT FOR THESE MEN. They've caught bigger fish. Faced meaner foes. Handled tougher situations than most.

They're Tennessee wiskeymen, trading stories in Jack Daniel's old office here at the distillery. That's Bull Waggoner on the right, going on about the trophy bass he caught last spring. (We're still trying to account for its existence.) Some tall tales will fill this room before everyone's through. But when these men talk of how faithful we are to Jack Daniel's whiskey-making ways, there's no exaggeration.



JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY

Education policy: Blunkett highlights parents' role in encouraging youngsters to continue learning away from the classroom

Labour sets forth on homework crusade

FRAN ABRAMS
Education Correspondent

Primary school children should spend a minimum of half an hour every night doing homework, Labour's education spokesman said yesterday.

David Blunkett told local authority representatives that some children spent just one hour a week doing homework but spent two and a half hours every night watching television.

In a speech which appeared to reinforce recent hard-line Labour statements on schools - the party has already announced plans to tackle bad teaching and to close failing schools in order to give them a "fresh start" - he said a Labour government would issue new guidelines on homework.

He argued that Britain's competitors in the Pacific Rim were successful because they set more homework. One and a half hours per night for a primary school child was not unusual in these countries.

"It is a worrying fact that primary school children in this country are spending as much as 12 times longer watching television at home than doing homework. The question, 'what did you do at school today?' falls on deaf ears. School - or more importantly learning - is shut out until the following morning," he told the Association of Metropolitan Authorities' conference in Wakefield.

Mr Blunkett said Manningtree school in Essex had opened an innovative "home-link" telephone line after finding that new pupils' biggest worry was getting home to find they had not written their

homework in their diaries. In Humberside, parents are encouraged to start working with their children even before they start school so that they have started to learn to read before they arrive there.

In Liverpool, the Prince's Trust had set up study support centres so that secondary pupils had somewhere quiet to do their homework, he said.

Last night a spokesman for the Department for Education and Employment said the Government already encouraged schools to have clear, written homework policies.

Teachers' unions welcomed the announcement last night but said they would not welcome new initiatives which put more pressure on them.

The move is likely to prove popular with parents, though. A recent Harris poll showed that 96 per cent of the public believed parents should encourage their children to do more homework, rather than watch television.

How much homework should children do?

At seven:

- Most schools set between one and four hours work per week.

- Children should spend time each day reading with their parents.

- Parents should help their children to spell words and to make sentences.

- Year-two children might be given simple sums to learn at home, on which they would be tested once a week at school.

- Some schools might set simple science experiments to do at home.

At 18:

- Because of GCSE course-work, three hours study a night is not unusual.

- Pupils will have homework in each exam subject.

- Long-term assignments involving research could take several weeks to complete.

- Students may be asked to do practical tasks, geography, for example, might demand a local land-use survey.

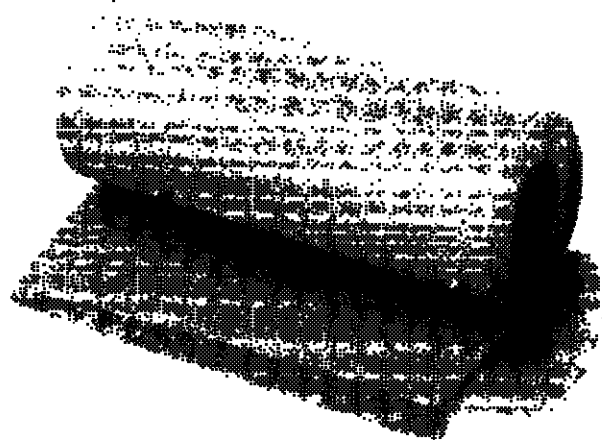
- Teachers should set work according to a timetable so pupils and parents know which subjects will be set on which nights.



Seat of learning: Schoolboy Ross Sadler pores over his homework

Photograph: John Lawrence

How to cash a cheque.



When expecting a cheque in the post, some blind people ask the sender to attach it to a piece of textured paper, like kitchen roll, so that it is not confused with a compliment slip, or thrown away by mistake.

It's a simple solution to one of the frustrating problems that arise when blind people are sent information they cannot read. The Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB) understands the indignity visually impaired people feel at having to rely on others to read out private and confidential information. That's why we campaign for blind people to have access to information in 'readable' forms. Many companies like banks and telephone networks now provide bank statements and phone bills in large print, braille and tape. But many day to day tasks require information which is usually produced in a form blind people find useless. RNIB

will convert any specific printed items on request. From bus timetables and washing instructions to knitting patterns and the recipe for soufflé. Even the sheet music to Handel's 'Messiah'. RNIB also has braille and tape libraries stocking literature ranging from Barbara Cartland to Karl Marx. RNIB's work is particularly important if you consider that many of the one million blind or partially sighted people in Britain live alone. Perhaps you know someone who suffers from poor sight. Someone who could benefit from the services we offer. Someone who may not realise that people are there to help them. For more details about RNIB call us on 0171 388 1266.


RNIB
challenging blindness

Royal National Institute for the Blind
Charity Registration Number 238227

Teenage burden rises as parents' demands grow

If your son claims his school never sets homework, you can be reasonably sure that he is lying. While some primary schools may only give optional homework, virtually all secondary schools set it.

David Blunkett was right when he said some primary children did as little as one hour a week. But some are doing as much as four hours and although there are no firm figures, half an hour each weekday is probably quite normal.

Earlier this year, schools inspectors published a report on homework which said that while there were wide variations, all primary schools sent tasks home. Most infants took home a book at least twice a week.

The amount of homework most pupils do rises steadily as they get older, and three hours a night is not unusual for a GCSE student. This makes our 16-year-olds more hard-working even than the Hungarians, who top the international homework table with nine hours a week. Girls do more homework than boys and independent school pupils do more than state school pupils.

Most teachers feel homework is valuable because it involves parents in their children's education, reinforces work covered in class, encourages independent study and prepares primary pupils for secondary school. But the inspectors noted that there was no hard evidence in this country to prove it actually led to higher stan-

Analysis

dards. Their report criticised schools which set homework but did not mark it, which asked pupils to finish work that should have been done in class and which set tasks for which not all children had the resources at home.

Homework's detractors say that the end of the day is the least efficient time for learning because children are tired. They also argue that it covers up for time-wasting in school, restricts children's freedom and causes rows at home.

But studies from the United States show that children who do regularly marked homework do better than those who do not and a study of grammar school boys in this country has backed up the finding.

A majority of primary schools in this country started sending even the youngest children home with books 10 years ago after a study revealed that reading regularly with a parent improves a child's performance in school.

Most parents think homework is a good thing. Middle-class parents tend to be strident in their support of it and the inspectors visited one school in an affluent area which had to draw up a homework policy to limit their demands for more.

Fran Abrams

Jaymee to sue over lack of NHS treatment

The father of Jaymee Bowen, the 11-year-old girl suffering from a rare form of leukaemia, said yesterday that his daughter was planning to sue the NHS for "an incredibly substantive sum".

David Bowen revealed that the Cambridge and Huntingdon Health Commission was paying £200-a-month towards the costs of his daughter's treatment.

But he said that he needed a minimum of £400-a-month to ensure that Jaymee received the best treatment.

Mr Bowen, 32, was speaking outside the Portland Hospital in central London, where Jaymee is spending her half-term while her drug regime is adjusted.

Her case was highlighted after the decision was taken in the spring not to give Jaymee more major treatment on the NHS.

Mr Bowen began his fight in the courts for continuation of aggressive cancer treatment on the NHS, but he failed to secure it.

An anonymous benefactor provided £65,000 for Jaymee to be treated at a private clinic where she underwent an experimental transfusion using white blood cells from her sister.

Dr Peter Gravett, the consultant haematologist who has been treating Jaymee, has said that following treatment her chances are now 20 to 30 per cent of remission, or "possibly a cure".

But Mr Bowen said that Jaymee needed to visit the

Portland Hospital at least twice a month, and there were the costs of drugs and any other treatment to be met.

Mr Bowen said that while the Portland Hospital was not currently pressing for fees, the cost of treatment had resulted in debts of more than £2,500 since September.

He said it had not been decided exactly who was going to be sued, but it would include those people who treated her under the NHS.

"It's going to be on the grounds that we feel there are very serious questions to be answered and a lot of niggly points about how she was treated," said Mr Bowen.

He said his solicitors were currently looking at who was responsible for Jaymee's treatment under the NHS. He said the health authority had had its chance to treat her, but had "blown it".

The money from the anonymous benefactor had now dried up, he added. Jaymee was suing in her own name and therefore qualified for legal aid.

"This is the most difficult time in my entire life. I really hope I will never have to go through with it again. But if I have to I will," he said.

Later, Jaymee went out shopping with her nine-year-old sister, Charlotte.

Wearing a yellow sweater and black leggings, she looked downcast and tired outside the hospital. She said: "I want to buy some shoes."

Barclays demand for money 'was close to blackmail'

A week after his father's death, Kevin Maxwell went to the Bank of England to discuss the group's problems with the then deputy governor Eddie George, the publisher's son told the Old Bailey yesterday.

Kevin Maxwell, who was accompanied by John Melbourn, a senior NatWest executive and Mr George, now the Bank's governor, went through a long list of problems, some of which had been notified to the Bank of England by other banks.

Asked by his counsel Alan Jones, QC, what the Bank of England's attitude was, Kevin Maxwell said: "First of all they thought it was responsible to have come to tell them directly, face to face, the problems they were hearing from other banks. They encouraged me, and specifically the company, to work closely and rely on John Melbourn. Eddie George said he had tremendous experience in handling this type of situation and we could not have a better man to help us."

Earlier this week, Kevin Maxwell accused Mr Melbourn of threatening him and refusing to hand back shares which the bank had been holding as security, even after a promised amount had been repaid.

He said Mr Melbourn threatened that NatWest would not support a standstill proposal unless Kevin Maxwell withdrew instructions over the payment of an inter-company debt.

Kevin Maxwell yesterday accused Barclays Bank of demanding money - also in the troubled days after his father's death in November 1991 - in "circumstances as close to commercial blackmail as I have ever experienced".

He said Barclays too threatened to "destroy" the standstill proposals unless they got a share of money held by Maxwell



Communications (MCC) at NatWest. "Their attitude was they were going to be damned if all the proceeds went to NatWest and none to them. It was extremely tough. It was threatening and, as I said, commercial blackmail," Kevin Maxwell told the jury. He said that he and the MCC board had agreed the payment to Barclays in the face of the threats.

Earlier, the Maxwell Group's relationship with Barclays had been more cordial. The bank had been the second or third biggest lender to Maxwell companies. At one stage, Barclays lending, which Kevin Maxwell described as "heretic", peaked at £500m. But by 1991 it had dropped to about £200m. Kevin Maxwell put down the "explosive growth" of the bank's lending in the 1980s to his father's close friendship with Barclays' chairman Sir John Quinlan.

The court has heard extracts from the hundreds of letters of condolence Kevin Maxwell and his brother Ian received after their father's death. He read further extracts from letters written by Lord Rippon QC, a member of the MCC board, and from the former cabinet minister Peter Walker.

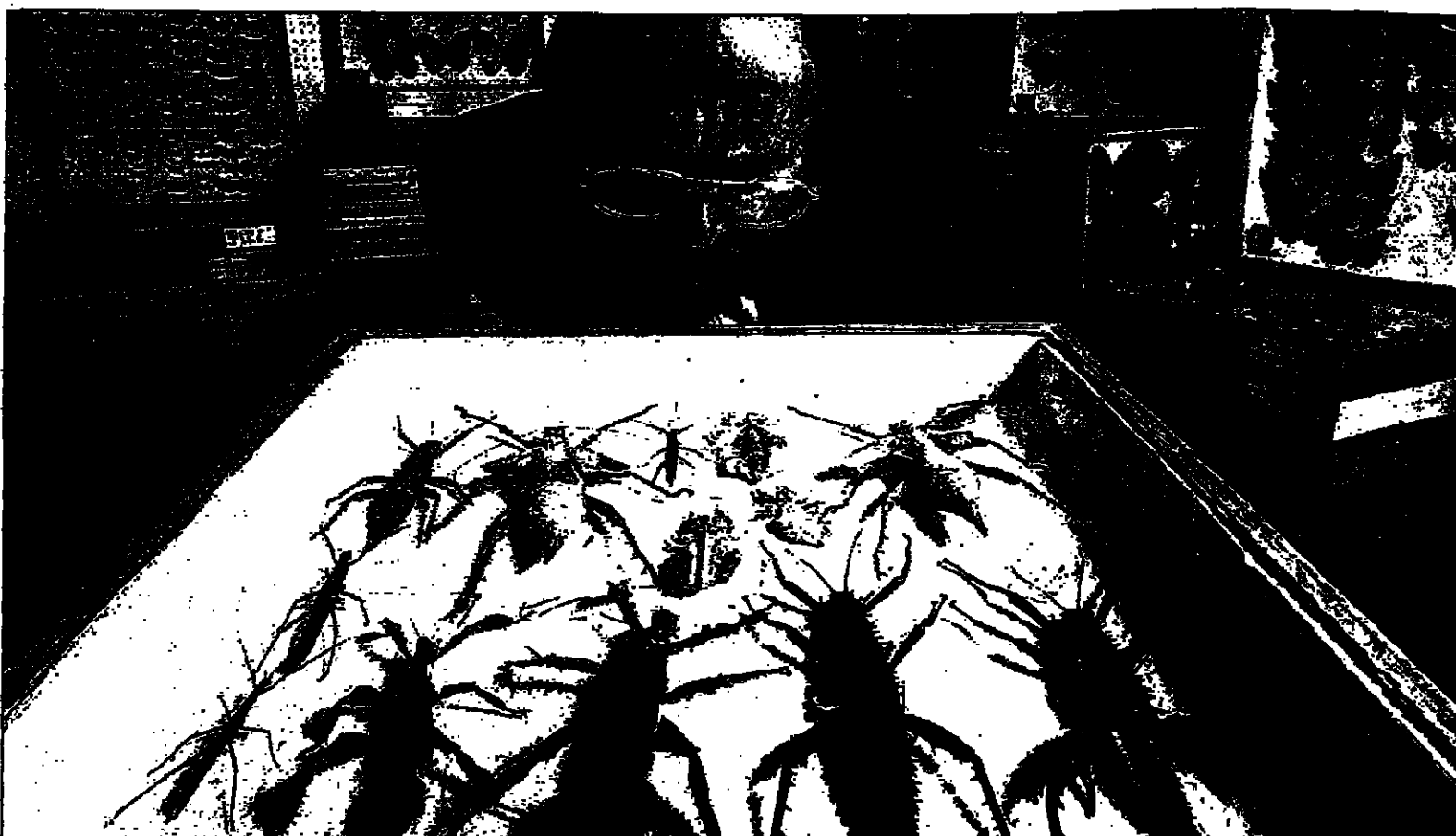
Lord Walker had been earmarked to take over as chairman of MCC until Robert Maxwell had a sudden change of heart, paid him off and invented a misleading account of

the incident for the City, the court has been told. Lord Rippon wrote of Robert Maxwell: "I will always remember him with affection and admiration. He was truly a great man in every way, generous and warm-hearted ... His word was his bond."

Lord Walker said the tycoon was "a very remarkable character". In his letter, he said that bankers had been telephoning him about the underlying quality of the Maxwell Group. He wrote that he had told them the quality of Kevin and Ian.

Kevin Maxwell, 36, Ian, 39, and Larry Trachtenberg, 42, a former Maxwell financial adviser, deny conspiracy to defraud the pension funds by misusing shares.

The trial was adjourned until Monday.



Creature comforts: Auctioneer Roger Tappin with the exotic insect collection of the late Clarence Brind, to be sold at Phillips in Par, Cornwall, next Friday. Mr Brind searched India and Africa for specimens while on Navy shore leave during the Second World War. Photograph: Tim Cuff

'Most managers back a national minimum wage'

BARRY CLEMENT
Labour Editor

One of Britain's biggest managers' organisations was yesterday accused of suppressing a survey result which showed an overwhelming majority of its members accepted the principle of a national minimum wage.

Out of more than 2,000 members of the Institute of Personnel Development, many of whom negotiate wages at the country's largest companies, more than 1,500 registered no opposition to the policy which is endorsed by the Labour Party and strongly opposed by the Government.

Some 806 respondents were positively in favour of a statutory minimum rate and a further 722 said that it would depend on the level at which it was set, while 504 members declared their outright opposition.

Sources at the IPD, which yesterday ended its annual conference in Harrogate, said that senior institute officials were dismayed by their members' support for a minimum pay policy and had decided not to reveal the information when other results of the research were published yesterday. The institute has long been keen to shed the traditional left-wing image of personnel officers.

The result of the survey will, however, boost the Labour Party,

which is keen to involve employers in the process of setting a rate. Labour has established a working party to prepare the way for a low pay commission which would advise a Labour administration on the minimum rate. The Government argues that a national minimum wage would cost jobs and lead to an inflationary spiral as other groups of workers sought to maintain differentials.

A spokeswoman for the IPD denied there had been any embarrassment over the result of the survey, which was conducted on the institute's behalf by the respected Reward Group.

There was no attempt to suppress the information, she said. Earlier this year the institute had published the results of a survey which showed that 48 per cent of managers in a wide range of professional disciplines had backed a lower limit on wages. The institute, however, had decided to withhold details from the Reward survey because it was based on a small sample, the spokeswoman said.

Many of the papers given at the conference this week have made uncomfortable reading for both the Government and captains of industry. They have argued that there is a wide gap between the rhetoric of flexible labour markets and the reality of insecurity at the workplace.

MORE THAN JUST LOW COST HOME INSURANCE IF YOU'RE OVER 50

"I find it most reassuring to know that at least one insurance company is able to offer a service which must be second to none."

Mr. K. Hodgkinson.

Need we say more?

If you're over 50 call Saga free on

0800 414 525

ext.1597

SAGA
Services Ltd

Saga Services Ltd would like to send you information about services provided by other Saga companies and may pass details to other companies for you to use. Please tick box.

£300 CASHBACK

On all discounted and fixed rate mortgages

VALUATION
FREE

Happy, happy, merry. Drop everything!
Cable, lunch, get round to Alliance & Leicester.
Phone. Double quick, immediately.
Offers must end soon. Get the message?
Good. Now relax and read the rest of our story.
Our mortgage rates may be amongst the lowest in the City, but that's no cause for complacency.
Here's our new mortgage offer above

And available on any discounted or fixed rate mortgage you apply for.
Is there no end to our generosity? Alas, yes, December 16th, to be precise. And not a day later.
So call 0800 412 214 to find out more, or pop into your local Alliance & Leicester branch.
After a chat with us, you may decide other building societies aren't worth a second look.

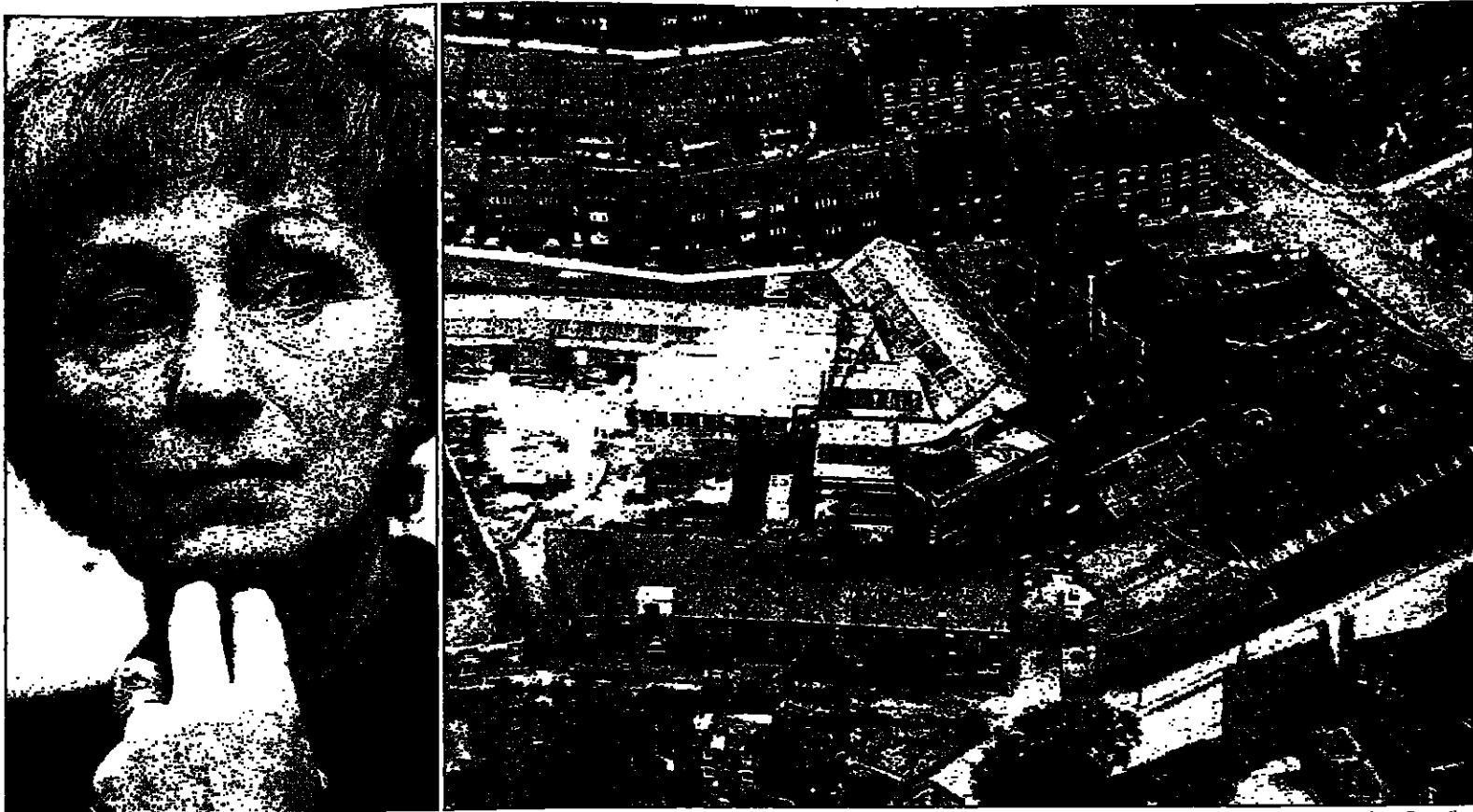
ALLIANCE
LEICESTER

THE SOCIETY'S DISCOUNTED AND FIXED RATE MORTGAGES ARE ONLY AVAILABLE TO NEW CUSTOMERS OR EXISTING BORROWERS MOVING HOME. THE £300 CASHBACK IS ONLY PAYABLE ON DISCOUNTED OR FIXED RATE MORTGAGES AND IS PAYABLE AFTER COMPLETION OF YOUR MORTGAGE. AN ARRANGEMENT FEE OF 3% OF THE LOAN, UP TO A MAXIMUM OF £200 IS PAYABLE FOR FIXED RATE MORTGAGES. DISCOUNTED AND FIXED RATE MORTGAGES ARE RESTRICTED TO NEW CUSTOMERS. THE FREE VALUATION OFFER IS ONLY AVAILABLE ON MORTGAGES APPLICABLE BETWEEN 1ST OCTOBER AND 31ST DECEMBER 1995. THE VALUATION OFFER IS LIMITED TO THE VALUE OF THE SOCIETY'S OPTION VALUATION AND IS PAYABLE AFTER COMPLETION OF YOUR MORTGAGE. TO QUALIFY FOR A VALUATION REFUND, THE SOCIETY MUST CHOOSE AND INSTRUCT THE VALUER. THE VALUATION REFUND OFFER CANNOT BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANY OTHER VALUATION REFUND OFFER. YOUR HOME IS SECURITY FOR THE LOAN AND MUST BE ADEQUATELY INSURED. LOANS ARE SUBJECT TO STATUS AND VALUATION AND ARE ONLY AVAILABLE TO PEOPLE AGED 18 OR OVER. WRITTEN ENQUERIES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST. ALLIANCE & LEICESTER BUILDING SOCIETY, HOME ADMINISTRATION, HOME PARK, HOME, EAST SUSSEX BN2 7AD. REPRESENTATIVE ONLY OF THE SCOTTISH AMicable BUILDING SOCIETY, WHICH IS REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT ACT 1988. FOR LIFE ASSURANCE, PLEASE CONTACT INTEREST FREE BUSINESS. OCTOBER 1995

THIS OFFER IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

news

Industrial damages: Court victory for dying woman and victim's widow may lead to hundreds of claims against manufacturers



Too close to home: The asbestos factory and surrounding streets where June Hancock (right) contracted cancer as a child. Photographs: Guzelian

Cancer sufferer awarded £65,000 in asbestos test case

JASON BENNETTO

A woman who contracted cancer after living close to an asbestos factory more than forty years ago yesterday won £65,000 compensation in an important test case that is likely to lead to hundreds of further claims for damages.

A second woman was awarded £50,000 compensation from the same asbestos manufacturers for the death of her husband who died from cancer after playing when he was a child outside the factory in Leeds.

The judge ruled that the factory owners should have known of the risks the asbestos dust posed to the children who used to play in the particles which

filled the surrounding streets and schoolyard, and threw asbestos "snowballs".

In a written judgement at Leeds High Court, Mr Justice Holland said that June Hancock, who is dying from mesothelioma, an asbestos-related cancer, was entitled to £65,000 compensation from factory owner, J W Roberts, now owned by the multinational, Turner & Newall.

He said that Evelyn Margereson, 69, whose husband, Arthur, died aged 66 from the disease in 1991, was entitled to £50,000.

The judge's ruling said the company owed a duty of care to the children.

The judge said: "At all material times there was knowledge, sufficient to found reasonable foresight on the part of the defendants, that children were particularly vulnerable to personal injury arising out of the inhalation of asbestos dust."

T&N was accused by the judge of trying to obstruct the legal action and to wear Mrs Hancock and Mrs Margereson down "by attrition".

At least 40 people who used to live near the factory in Armley are now expected to claim compensation.

The company said later it was considering an appeal against the decision.

Mrs Hancock played in and

around the factory between 1938 and 1951. She was diagnosed as suffering from mesothelioma in 1994 and was told she had two years to live.

Mrs Hancock, who lives in Leeds, and Mrs Margereson claimed that the company, a subsidiary of T&N which was then the world's largest manufacturer of asbestos, knew or should have known the dangers. A statement from T&N said: "T&N believes the judge was wrong to find T&N liable in these cases."

T&N is no longer involved in the production of asbestos. However it set aside £150m in contingency funds to deal with asbestos-linked claims.

It was conceded before the trial that Mrs Hancock's and Mr Margereson's illnesses were caused by asbestos from the factory, but any compensation depended on proving that the company knew or should have known the dangers the dust could cause.

Lawyers said yesterday that the judgement would make it far easier for people to make successful claims for damages in similar conditions throughout the country. T&N had three other large factories in Manchester, Tyneside and Rochdale.

However, T&N is an extremely large company and it remains to be seen how claims involving much smaller asbestos manufacturers will fair.

Self Assessment

It's time to tidy up your tax affairs.

Are you getting your house in order, ready for Self Assessment?

If you are self-employed, the changes will certainly affect you. For instance, if you own a business which employs others, are in a partnership (including husband and wife partnerships), a one person business working from home, or self-employed in one job and employed in another.

(It will also apply to everyone else who normally receives a tax return including higher rate tax payers, company directors and some pensioners.)

Self Assessment is not a new tax. Just a more straightforward way of assessing and paying it. The first Self Assessment tax returns will be sent out in April 1997 for the tax year 1996/97.

That may seem a long way off but you'll need to get your tax affairs up to date well before then. If you have any outstanding tax business, don't keep putting it off, sort it out. Or if you're not clear about your tax situation, get in touch with your tax office or accountant to find out exactly where you stand. It will make the change-over to Self Assessment that much easier.

And remember, you must keep adequate records. It's a good idea to have a tax file and keep everything together that might be useful such as receipts, dividend vouchers and other important documents.

Failing to comply with the new rules could cost you interest and penalties. To help you avoid this, there'll be a clear timetable setting out exactly what you need to do and by when.

Self Assessment doesn't mean you'll have to work out your own tax bill. We'll be happy to do it for you. But if you want to do the calculation yourself you'll have a bit longer to get your tax return in. With any change - even for the better - we understand you may have questions or concerns. We've prepared some free booklets and a video to help you. If you'd like copies just send us the coupon or telephone our special number anytime. (All calls are charged at the local rate.)

0345 16 15 14

.....24hr.....24hr..... 24hr..... 24hr.....

Revenue

Self Assessment - a clearer tax system

Please send me more information about Self Assessment. Please tick a box if you are: Self employed ☐ Employed ☐ A Pensioner ☐ Seeking work ☐

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)

Address

Postcode

SA/100/2/CH

PLEASE RETURN COUPON TO: SELF ASSESSMENT PO BOX 555 BRISTOL BS99

Dust was used to make 'snowballs'

Children used to rake up the piles of dust that collected in the streets and homes surrounding the asbestos factory in Leeds and hurl "snowballs" at each other, writes Jason Bennetto. The dust was so thick that youngsters could draw hopscotch squares on the pavements whilst, others, played inside the factory walls among the bales of blue and white asbestos.

Between 1938 and 1951, June Hancock, now 59, was one of the children. Arthur Margereson was another. Both went to the Armley Board School, which overlooked the factory. Years later both were discovered to have contracted the asbestos-related cancer, mesothelioma. Doctors believe Mrs Hancock has less than a year to live while Mr Margereson died four years ago.

Yesterday's court judgement ruled that the factory's owners, Turner and Newall, should have known that the children who frolicked among the dust were frolicking with death. The lawyers argued that there was a wealth of published research by 1950 that showed the link.

The factory, which closed in 1958 after operating for 70 years, on Canal Road is today a squat, single-storey building whose sandy-coloured stone walls have been stained with soot. It is overlooked by rows of

'I lost my mother to same disease - that's why I fought'

pre-war back-to-back terrace houses. The factory, which used to manufacture products made of asbestos, is now being demolished for the death of at least 50 people in the Armley district.

The deadly risk that the asbestos posed was only identified in Armley in 1988 when a cluster of deaths from mesothelioma was identified. It is a rare disease which can take up to 50 years to develop and affects the lining of the lungs and abdomen.

In addition, a recent council-funded survey has revealed that 90 per cent of the houses tested - 258 out of 290 - were contaminated. About 840 homes are affected and residents are trying to obtain compensation.

Mrs Hancock said yesterday: "It has been very tiring and very traumatic and I feel that it proves that however small you are you can fight, and however big you can lose. I lost my mother to the same disease and that was the reason I started this. I am just fighting on behalf of all the other people out there that are affected."

Mrs Margereson is in hospital after suffering a stroke, but her daughter, Linda Mason, said: "I'm glad it's all over, but I wish my dad had been here."

HELP!

For the sufferers of kidney disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, cystitis

The National Kidney Research Fund has research programmes to discover the causes of Kidney Disease, High Blood Pressure, Diabetes and Cystitis which affect 1 in 5 of the population.

The NKRF produces reports with proceeds from sales of these funding research and kidney patients.

In the first issue, subscribers will read about the causes and treatment of these ailments and future issues will have a question and answer column.

If you would like to be kept informed on these matters, please join our list

of subscribers to the NKRF Bulletin - the cost is just £10 per year.

Payment may be made by cheque, Postal Order, Direct Debit or Credit Card (please state card number, expiry date, full name and address) and indicate which booklet you require - High Blood Pressure, Diabetes, Kidney Disease or Cystitis and send to:

The National Kidney Research Fund (Sub.J)
3 Archers Court,
Stokeley Road,
Huntingdon,
Cambridgeshire.
PE18 6XG.

Tel: 01480 454828

NATIONAL
KIDNEY
RESEARCH

NATIONAL KIDNEY RESEARCH SAVING LIVES
Registered Charity Number 252892

'Pride and Prejudice': Video sales of the hit BBC television series reach 70,000 as fans fall under the spell of its brooding hero

BBC cashes in as 'Darcy phenomenon' has nation in a swoon

JOJO MOYES

A man emerges dripping from a bath, his muscular back gleaming in the dim light. Later he rises from a lake, his wet shirt transparent against his torso. A nation of women sigh, flush, and rush out to buy the video.

This is not a semi-porno-graphic B-movie. This is Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. And with the final episode just hours away, lovelorn women and adoring marketing men are murmuring just one name: Darcy.

At the BBC they are calling it the "Darcy phenomenon". Viewing figures for the BBC series are over 10 million, while sales of the BBC video, which sold out its initial run of 12,000 within two hours of its release, have now reached 70,000.

"If you imagine *Martin Chuzzlewit* and *Middlemarch* sold between 12,000 and 20,000 each, it really is a huge phenomenon," a BBC spokeswoman said yesterday. "These videos are £20 each. This only really happens with feature films and they're not as expensive."

This week the video went straight in at number eight on the Gallup top 100 videos. According to the BBC it is unheard of for a video to sell even half

as well, especially when viewers are able to tape the episodes at home for free.

"The only similar success we had was *Poldark* but that's a nostalgia thing," the spokeswoman said.

Sales of the BBC book *The Making of Pride and Prejudice* have sold out, while Penguin has seen massive sales of the original. The series has already been licensed to eight broadcasters abroad, generating an extra £500,000 for the BBC before the series has even finished.

"That's likely to increase even further as a result of the critical acclaim," Mary Collins of BBC Worldwide's sales department said. "We anticipate this is going to be one of the best selling programmes ever."

The reason for this unprecedented success, according to BBC insiders, is tall, dark and handsome and is currently taped to the office walls of nearly every female in Television Centre.

"We put it all down to the appeal of Darcy," the spokeswoman said. "There's no other reasoning for it. Episode four was the killer. I've never seen an actor so consistently wet."

The BBC has been deluged by calls from anxious female viewers unable to wait for the final episode – or the much heralded kiss between Darcy, who is

played by Colin Firth, and Elizabeth Bennet, played by Jennifer Ehle.

"We've had people in tears, ringing us for copies. One woman called us crying yesterday because she couldn't get a copy and she was going on holiday. She was desperate to see it before she went," the spokeswoman said.

The sexual aura surrounding Firth-as-Darcy has been heightened by reports that he and Ehle were lovers off-screen at the time. Set insiders have gleefully told of "bruised lips and sexual tension" as they filmed a large number of takes to get the scene exactly right.

Aged 34, Firth stands 6ft 1in, with tanned brown hair and deep-set eyes. He is said to have been inundated with offers of work as a result of his "perfect" portrayal of the brooding hero. The evident blurring in the public psyche of Firth with Darcy was recently compounded by the actor himself. He apparently struggled with the enigmatic character before coming to the conclusion that "the only way for it to work is to be Darcy already".

Firth is currently filming in Italy. He has been back to Britain for one week since the series began and became aware of the extent of the series' success when he found himself be-



Happy ending: Darcy, played by Colin Firth, finally weds Lizzie Bennet, played by Jennifer Ehle, in the final episode of 'Pride and Prejudice'

ing stopped in the street. He may also have to change his telephone number, if the persistence of his new-found fans is anything to go by.

The BBC were curiously reticent about giving out the name

of his agent, ICM. "You are from the *Independent*, aren't you? You're not a fan?" the spokeswoman said nervously.

ICM, it emerged, is currently receiving upwards of 30 calls a day from fans.

"They're calling to find out what he's planning to do next, whether they can see him in theatre," a spokesman for ICM, said wearily.

But according to the BBC the adulation of Mr Darcy has not

been restricted to members of the public.

"We've had journalists and editors of national newspapers being so sweet to us over the past few days, begging us for copies of the video. All for re-

search purposes of course," the spokeswoman said. "We even had one national newspaper begging us for posters of Darcy to give away," she added. "The *Sun*? No, it was the *Times*, actually."

The Bennet sisters: how they have fared since the series – and what the Jane Austen Society thought of their performances

Jennifer Ehle (Elizabeth Bennet)

Acting with the Royal Shakespeare Company until March. She came to public attention for her role as Calypso in Channel 4's adaptation of *The Camomile Lawn*. More recently seen as the murdered wife Penny McCallister in the Carlton television docu-drama *Beyond Reason*.



Susannah Harker (Jane Bennet)

Currently filming Merchant Ivory's *Surviving Picasso* with Anthony Hopkins. Came to public attention through her role as the journalist Mattie in the political thriller *House of Cards*. Also played the girlfriend of RSC actor Ian Glen in the Euston Films series *The Fair*. They later married and now have a six-month-old baby, Finley.



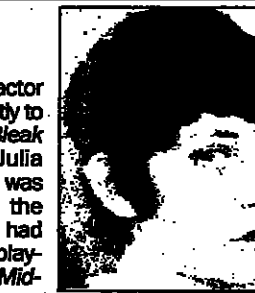
Julia Sawalha (Lydia Bennet)

Recently finished filming in the *Bleak Midwinter* with Kenneth Branagh. Most recently known for her roles playing Jennifer Saunders' serious, bespectacled offspring Sally in the BBC comedy series *Absolutely Fabulous*, and Mercy Pockstaff in *Martin Chuzzlewit*. Ms Sawalha also spent three television series as the daughter Hannah in *Second Thoughts*.



Lucy Briers (Mary Bennet)

The daughter of actor Richard Briers (shortly to be seen in *The Bleak Midwinter* with Julia Sawalha, left), she was previously with the Bristol Old Vic and had her first big break playing Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Since she finished filming *Pride and Prejudice* nine months ago, she has completed another film called *The Anarchist*, which stars Sandi Toksvig. Ms Briers is about to get married to 29-year-old actor Simon Cox.



Polly Maberly (Kitty Bennet)

Kitty may be seen as one of the least interesting characters in the Bennet family, and one who suffers in comparison to her incandescent and irrepressible sister Lydia. Little is known about Ms Maberly, who plays her, other than the fact that Kitty was her first major part. Agents Central Artists Management were yesterday unable to comment on her plans, other than to say that the young actress is currently studying at RADA.



33% OFF
DUTY FREE.

WE'VE ARRANGED OUR TIMETABLE TO MATCH YOURS.

WITH 40 CAR SHUTTLES A DAY, AND NO NEED TO BOOK, YOU CAN'T MISS IT. PHONE 0990 35 35 35 OR SEE YOUR TRAVEL AGENT. TICKETS CAN BE PRE-PURCHASED OR BOUGHT ON THE DAY.

le Shuttle



You really can be confident in FRENCH, SPANISH GERMAN or ITALIAN in 3½ weeks.

You get a much warmer response when you travel and command more respect in business, if you speak another language. It also helps greatly with school progress.

But many people are put off learning a language because they fear it takes too long, will be too difficult or blurry, will be boring.

Why? Because traditional methods have often put too much emphasis on pure reading and writing. The common complaint is "I can read a bit of French – but I can't speak it."

Accelerated Learning is a very different method, based on Nobel Prize winning research. You learn the way you learned English – through a unique combination of seeing, hearing and doing.

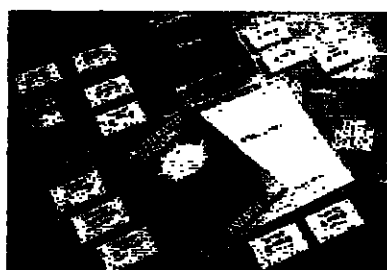
ALL THE WAYS TO LEARN

Physical Learning. By imitating the actions on a unique video and repeating the phrases you see on super titles, you learn key vocabulary quickly and easily. Watching and imitating is how you started to speak as a child.

Auditory Learning. You listen to a series of realistic and intriguing radio plays on 12 cassettes. You become absorbed in the story and motivated to hear what's next. The plays cover all the important situations you'll meet and you absorb vocabulary easily in a natural way.

There are parts you can practise in the car and even a part where the story is repeated to music, a technique that involves the left brain (words & logic) and the right brain (music and creativity). The words become as easy to remember as a song.

Visual Learning. In your course the foreign language has the English text immediately alongside. It helps you absorb the words naturally and easily. Then key phrases are vividly and memorably illustrated through "Memory Maps". When you recall the images, you recall the words.



Total Involvement. There are dozens of games and activities to get you using your new language in natural and enjoyable ways. One, the Name Game, unlocks the meaning of thousands of words from the very first day.

It's the unique multi-media combination that engages your whole brain and gets you speaking confidently in such a short time. And fluent communication gives you a wonderful sense of achievement.

PROVE IT TO YOURSELF



We invite you to order with this assurance. We will not process your cheque or credit card for at least 15 days after we dispatch your course. If you are not completely satisfied that this is the fastest and most enjoyable way to learn a language, simply return the programme and you will have paid nothing. That's how sure we are.

*It is important to study your course once a week and not wait until the end of the week to study.

FREE

Order a Language course within 10 days and we will send you:

- The Secrets of Learning a Language – an invaluable guide book.
- A digital electronic travel alarm clock with world time zone settings.
- The Physical Learning Video – that immerses you in the language.
- A total bonus value of £20!

TRIPLE BONUS

Order a Language course within 10 days and we will send you:

- The Secrets of Learning a Language – an invaluable guide book.
- A digital electronic travel alarm clock with world time zone settings.
- The Physical Learning Video – that immerses you in the language.
- A total bonus value of £20!

THE METHOD WORKS

Education News says, "It's radically different – there are so many features about it that recommend it to the learner." The *Business Institute of New Zealand* says, "Accelerated Learning is the new competitive weapon."

Mensa says, "It's revolutionary." The *Daily Mail* reported that "Children using Accelerated Learning are racing ahead." "The results are spectacular."

BBC and ITV news recently reported on a school where ten times more students using Accelerated Learning Courses got top marks compared with those using conventional courses.

Australian TV news reported "Astounding fluency." They did two years work in three months.

Hundreds of companies for whom proficiency is vital use Accelerated Learning for language and general training – such as Air UK, Boeing, Boots, Esso, IBM, Kodak, ICI, Rover, Glaxo, Sony, Tesco, Nestle, Lloyds Bank etc.

FLUENCY COMES QUICKLY

Can you really speak well in 3½ weeks? Yes, the record so far was 37 hours of study to pass the Institute of Linguists Preliminary Certificate. Think what you could achieve in a month! Order today on FREEPHONE (0800) 243351 (24 hours) or use the coupon below.

French ☐ **German** ☐
Spanish ☐ **Italian** ☐

I enclose my preferred method of payment (which will be processed only after I decide to keep my course):

☐ One full payment of £99 (plus £5.50 delivery) – Total £104.50 OR ☐ An initial deposit of £38.50 (including 24hr Delivery) followed by 3 consecutive monthly payments of £24 each (Total £110.50) Credit Cards Only.

I enclose my cheque for £_____ or debit my Visa/Access card. Expiry date: _____

GARD NO: _____

Mr/Ms/Ms Address: _____

Signature: _____

SEND TO: ACCELERATED LEARNING SYSTEMS, FREEPOST, AYLESBURY, BUCKS. HP22 4BR

Accelerated Learning Systems Ltd, 50 Aylesbury Rd., Aston Clinton, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 5AH Telephone Enquiries (01296) 881177

8
news

Funding privatisation: Dilemma for franchise director as Labour is accused of 'muddled' policy

Rail subsidy grants to be secret

CHRISTIAN WOLMAR

Information about money given to private operators to run the railways is likely to be kept secret, it emerged yesterday.

Roger Salmon, the franchising director who is responsible for allocating the £1.9bn of government money used to subsidise rail services, yesterday said he had not yet decided if such details would be released.

While the overall level of Mr Salmon's budget will be known, he said: "I haven't yet reached a decision on what level of detail will be provided" and in particular whether amounts given for each line will be made known. Under the system, all 25 lines to be franchised will need substantial subsidy.

Mr Salmon was speaking as the final bids for the first three lines to be franchised were being submitted, renewing the political row over the privatisation process. Labour's confusion over its response to privatisation deepened with Clare Short, Labour's new transport spokeswoman, falling to keep to the narrow line between the party's ban on spending commitments and its promise to regain public control of the railways.

Speaking on the BBC Radio 4 Today programme, she appeared to go further than previous Labour statements by saying: "We will get whatever gets away back into public ownership." She also said that this would be done "as cheaply as possible". Sir George Young, the Secretary of State for Transport, said Ms Short was in a



Political platform: London's Fenchurch Street station on the LTS line, one of the first to be franchised

Photograph: Gernaint Lewis

"muddle" and appeared to be making a clear commitment to renationalising the railways. Mr Salmon is also in a difficult position. He is reluctant to release the financial information over the first bids because if he has been too generous he may

not have enough money to ensure all the other subsidised services on the rail network can be run. Earlier this year, he told the Commons transport committee that should this happen, he would go back to the Government to ask for more money but

this seems politically impossible given the precarious state of the government's finances. Only half a dozen outside companies are known to have expressed an interest in one or more of the first three franchises - South West Trains, LTS, the

London, Tilbury & Southend railway, and Great Western Railway - along with management buy-out teams on each of the lines. The demands for subsidy to run them are likely to be high, putting Mr Salmon under intense pressure.

Platform still shrouded in fog

STEPHEN GOODWIN

Clare Short's first significant pronouncements since taking over the Labour transport brief have done nothing to lift the fog on how the party in government would take control of a privatised railway.

As the deadline was reached yesterday for franchises for the London Tilbury and Southend Line, Great Western Line and South West Trains, Ms Short warned that "the gravy train will hit the buffers the minute Tony Blair enters Downing Street". The rhetoric was much the same as that of her predecessor, Michael Meacher, and so too was the total absence of a timetable or proposed means of regaining state control.

Mr Meacher may in the circumstances be wondering why he was shunted to the less prominent employment post, despite improving his position in last week's Shadow Cabinet elections. It was rumoured that Mr Blair was unhappy about his reluctance to play down the prospect of renationalisation.

The Labour leader has never been as personally committed to the idea as more traditional colleagues, notably his deputy, John Prescott. In January 1993 at the low midpoint of the Clause IV campaign, he refused to promise to renationalise the railways.

Then, on the eve of the Labour conference, facing a difficult vote on the minimum wage, trade unions were given a pledge of renationalisation "as soon as possible".

Virtually the biggest cheer during Mr Blair's conference speech was for his commitment to a "publicly-owned" railway. But though the message sounds clear, the means remain opaque, despite the fact that a group chaired by Mr Prescott has been looking at the options since the New Year.

Ms Short, in a letter in yesterday's Independent, said: "Whatever stage is reached we will ensure the railways are in public ownership." Like Mr Meacher, she is concentrating on scaring potential franchisees and would-be shareholders with warnings of "no fat profits".

Early in the year Mr Prescott said franchisees would be allowed to run for the seven-year period, but within weeks, Mr Meacher demoted this to "an option" and raised the spectre of a Labour government cutting subsidies to private operators.

But Labour continues to lead with the pledge to a publicly-owned railway while following up sotto voce that it is all about priorities and timing. The Labour leader's office said yesterday: "We cannot give an open-ended commitment. The most important thing is the commitment to a publicly-owned railway, and we will continue to explore ways of achieving that."

How Labour changed its timetable

Tony Blair, Labour leader: "To anyone thinking of grabbing our railways, built up over the years, so they can make a quick profit as our network is broken up and sold off, I say this: There will be a publicly owned, publicly accountable railway system under a Labour government." Party conference address, 3 October.

"I am not giving a blank cheque to this or any other area. We will look at the possibility of taking it into public ownership." Radio interview, 4 October.

Michael Meacher, transport spokesman until last week: "There is the whole question of the 51 per cent buy-back, there are golden shares, there are bonds. I am not at this stage going into details." Radio 4 "World at Five", 4 October.

"Let me make it clear that Labour wants not merely a publicly owned railway, but a much better railway." House of Commons, 18 October.

Clare Short, new transport spokeswoman: "We will have them back in public ownership, absolutely, as cheaply as it is possible to do. Any licensing government has enormous powers and we will do it." Radio 4 "Today" programme, 27 October.



More fizz less bucks!

There's never been a better time to buy your Champagne at Oddbins and with all this wonderful fizz on offer at the equivalent of 20% off the normal price, you've got the perfect excuse to stock up early for Christmas!

Buy 12, get 3 extra free!

Heidsieck Dry Monopole
£12.49

Bonnet
£13.99

Bonnet Rosé
£14.99

Perrier-Jouët
£16.99

Mumm Cordon Rouge
£17.49

Pommery
£17.99

Billecart-Salmon
£18.99

Taittinger
£20.99

Louis Roederer
£21.99

Billecart-Salmon Rosé
£25.99

(all non-vintage 75cl bottles)

Oddbins

Offer applies only to selected Champagnes. Valid until 20th November 1995. 3 free bottles must be the same as the other 12 bottles purchased. No further discounts apply. Subject to availability.



The first three lines

How lines performed year ending March 1994	Great Western	LTS Rail	South West Trains
Train miles (million)	7.9	3.1	18
Passenger miles (million)	1,218	423	1,800
Passenger journeys (million)	14	23	95
Passenger revenue (£ million)	156	53	221
Number of employees (at 30 September 1994)	3,046	803	3,928



If you can use a typewriter, you're vastly overqualified.

Forget sticking keys and twisted ink ribbon. The Sharp Font Writer has made the typewriter a thing of the past.

Like the typewriter it has a keyboard, but that's where the similarities end. You'll also find an easy to read LCD screen and a built-in printer.

And we've put it all into one compact box, making it easier to take anywhere.

All you have to do is plug it in. Sounds simple? Wait until you see how effortless it is to use. Just type, spellcheck and print.

Not only does it come complete with its own word processing and spreadsheet software, should you ever want to transfer files on to your IBM compatible PC you can convert them effortlessly to

WordPerfect or Lotus 1-2-3 format. So if you're finding it difficult to cope with a temperamental typewriter, you should get your hands on the Font Writer. With the full range available across the country, that'll be easy too.

SHARP
INTELLIGENT THINKING

AVAILABLE FROM: BOOTS • WHYSMITH • ARGOS • DUNLOP • FYMAN • JOHN LEVINS PARTNERSHIP • PERSONAL BUSINESS CENTRES AND OTHER LEADING RETAILERS. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL 0800 262554, QUOTING REFERENCE 3FW1052.

PUT YOUR CURRENT ACCOUNT ON THE SPOT

Will you give me credit interest of up to 5% gross p.a. and low overdraft rates?

If your bank account can't offer a low rate on authorised overdrafts, there is an account that can. And if your bank account won't offer credit interest of up to 5% gross p.a. and a £100 cheque guarantee card and cash card, find out about the Alliance Account from Alliance & Leicester. For more details, phone us today or return the coupon.

*Subject to status

Call FREE on 0500 95 95 95 or complete and return the coupon today quoting ref. 210

Please send me more information about the Alliance Account from Alliance & Leicester.
Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms _____ Initials _____
Surname _____ Address _____
Postcode _____
Tel No (Home) _____ (Work) _____
Date of birth _____ / _____ / _____

Are you an Alliance & Leicester customer? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Return to: Alliance & Leicester Building Society, Freeport, LS9 9AB, Leeds LS2 8AL.

ALLIANCE LEICESTER

Applications and overdrafts are subject to status, written quotations available on request. Credit interest is payable net of basic rate income tax, 5% gross p.a. paid on credit balance at £5000 or over. Minimum age 18. Minimum credit salary of £2000 per month. Alliance & Leicester Building Society.

150 من المال

How the Daily Mail sabotaged a piece of legislation in five days

Monday October 23. Page One alerts its readers to the Family Homes and Domestic Violence Bill which will give the cohabitant similar rights to wives and thus 'downgrade' the institution of marriage. Family campaigners warn against feminists and the 'domestic violence industry'.

On the same day in a leader page article by Oxford theologian William Oddie declares that a 'wronged' girlfriend - one who claims she has been the victim of harassment or violence - will be able to evict a former lover from his own house.

Tory revolt grows over marriage Bill

Wednesday October 25. The paper reports a day of rising alarm in the Government Whip's office at the growing opposition to the Bill. It finds few MPs to articulate their alarm.

The 'revolt' against the Lord Chancellor's measures appears to be led by MP Roger Gale who said: 'I intend to table an amendment which would act as a signal that there is concern over this measure.' Readers are reminded that the Bill will extend rights to cohabitants which would normally be extended to married couples and homosexual partners.

Tory revolt grows over marriage Bill

Friday October 27. Readers are told, triumphantly, that the attempt to sabotage the institution of marriage was 'dead in the water' and the nation had been spared a wave of feminist-inspired polemic. Lady Olga Maitland, MP, thanks the Daily Mail.

In its editorial, the paper modestly claims that but for its vigilance a devastating piece of legislation would have been passed. It attacks the Government for listening to fashionable opinion... social propagandists who think marriage is obsolescent.

LIVE-IN LOVERS BILL IS SHELVED

Marriage, the family and Tory principles

Tory rebels 'misunderstand' violence Bill

JOHN RENTON
Political Correspondent

Until Monday morning this week hardly anyone had heard of the Family Homes and Domestic Violence Bill, a bill designed to give cohabitants the same rights as married couples in the event of a breakdown.

On Monday, the Daily Mail carried a front-page story about government plans to "sabotage marriage" and telephoned one of the Conservative MPs on the committee which "nodded it through".

But the Tory MPs' revolt against the "Live-In Lovers" Bill, which was postponed for "reconsideration" on Thursday, is based on a misunderstanding of the law, according to the former Cabinet minister John MacGregor - another Tory MP who has doubts about the Bill.

Lord Mackay, the Lord Chancellor, halted the Bill after he was visited by eight Tory MPs who said they had suddenly been alerted by the Mail to the true nature of the measure.

Most of the eight are staunchly pro-family right-wing Tories, such as Lady Olga Maitland, Roger Gale and Edward Leigh, who were stirred into action by the Mail article, which declared the Bill "goes most of the way towards abolishing matrimony as a legally distinct state".

But Mr MacGregor, one of the eight, said yesterday that this went "way over the top" and that provisions giving cohabitants the same rights as married couples to protection from domestic violence "are not new".

The other Tory MPs, taking their cue from the Mail, have seized on the Bill, most of which consolidates existing law, claiming that men could be

forced to leave their homes if their partners made allegations of violence against them.

William Oddie, the Oxford theologian who wrote the original Mail article, said this could happen because of "the anti-marriage bias of the courts and their willingness to give judgment in such matters without evidence".

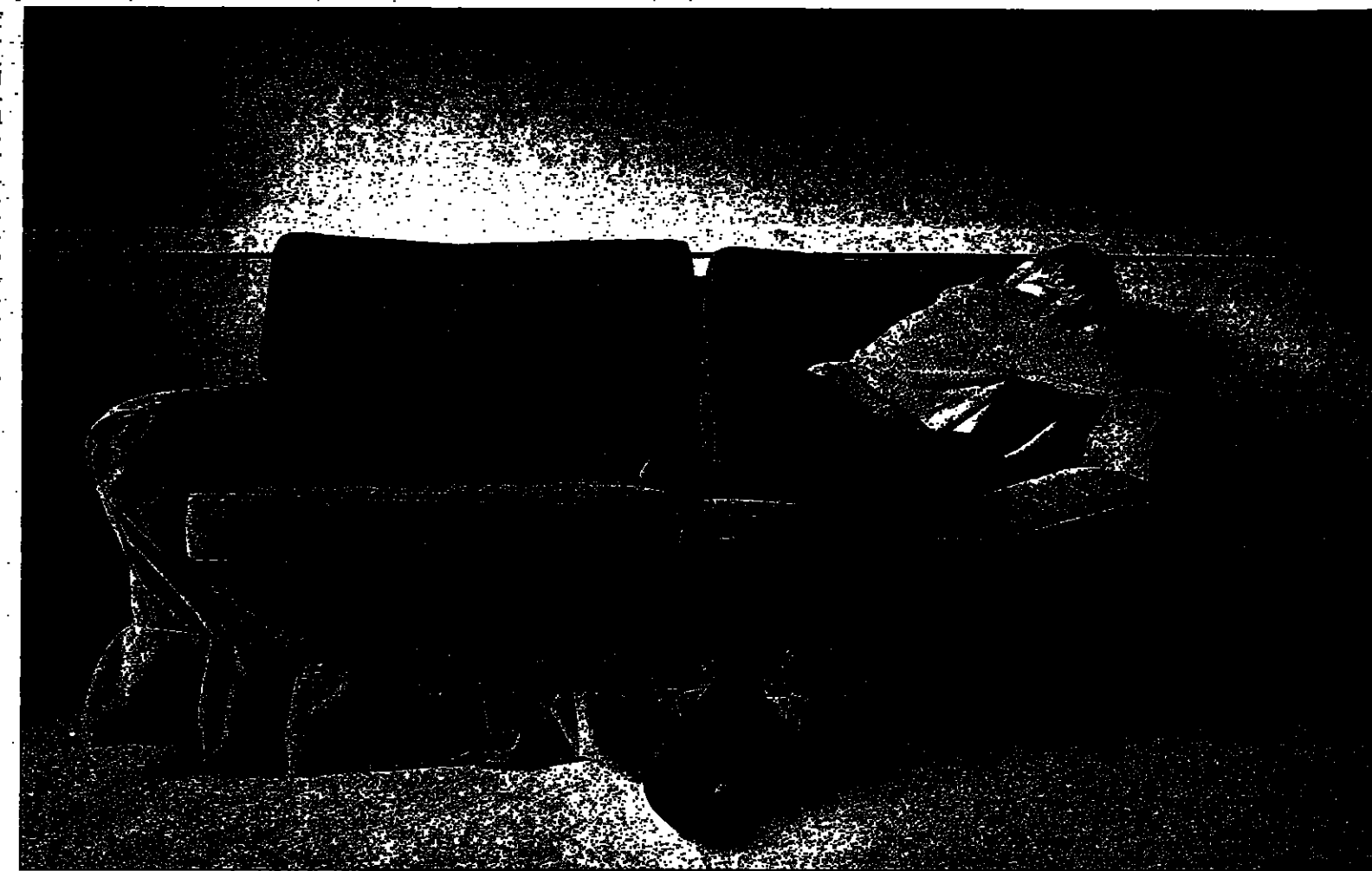
But the idea that the Bill extends rights from married couples to cohabitants is also incorrect, according to the Lord Chancellor's Department and experts at the Law Society. The society said: "They have had the right to be protected from domestic violence since the late 1970s."

This protection can include the right temporarily to exclude a violent partner from property in which a couple have been living.

Mr MacGregor's concern with the Bill is quite different, revolving around the definition of "harm", which he says has been extended to cover mental health as well as physical health. The other Tory rebels found themselves attacked from all sides yesterday, as John Major, the Prime Minister, expressed his irritation and the opposition attacked them as an "extremist rump".

Mr Major told Sky News that the measure had passed through most of its stages without a hint of controversy. "I don't think anyone expected there to be any controversy. There hasn't been. It has been almost through the House of Commons and the House of Lords without any controversy being discovered," he said.

Asked whether Lord Mackay had misjudged the mood of MPs, Mr Major, who was touring Cumbria, retorted: "Well if the Lord Chancellor misjudged the mood, so did everyone else, when it was through the House of Commons and the Lords earlier. To lay this at the door of the Lord Chancellor, who is one of the most civilised, decent and humane men I know, is not accurate."



Place of safety: A victim of violence at the hands of a former partner, at a London women's refuge yesterday

Photograph: Jane Barker

everyone who examined the Bill when it went through the Commons and the Lords, up until the last minute."

He insisted the Bill did not represent a retreat from the Tory party's commitment to "shoring up the institution of marriage". We have always been the party of the family, always have been, always will

be. Government sources claimed that the Bill would resume its passage, possibly with some "clarifying amendment", the week after next.

But Labour used the Government's embarrassment to repeat its charge that Mr Major was a prisoner of the right. "John Major is hemmed in on all sides by backbenchers and

ministers who are determined to move the Tory party further to the right," Chris Smith, Labour social security spokesman, said.

Tessa Jowell, Labour's new spokeswoman on women, said: "Yet again we are faced with the distasteful prospect of the Tories putting their own interests before the needs of the country."

Domestic violence is a national disease that needs decisive government action to protect women who are victims. But this government considers placating people on the margins of the Tory party a higher priority."

Labour last week published a consultative document, on ways of changing attitudes to domestic violence, *Peace at Home*.

INDEPENDENT

So it was the Mail what won it. It was the Mail that exposed the true anti-family nature of the Family Homes and Domestic Violence Bill. It was the Mail which alerted those giants of the backbenches, Julian Brazier, Roger Gale and Olga Maitland to *la famille en danger*. So it was the Mail that may well have killed the Bill.


Not that it understood the Bill in the first place. Its characterisation of the provisions as placing cohabitants on the same contractual basis as married couples was plain wrong. What the Bill actually did was extend the definition of domestic abuse and the categories of person (for example, the mothers of abusive sons) who could apply for exclusion orders.

So the Mail wrecked the wrong Bill. But why? Because the idea that cohabitants might have the same rights in law as legally wedded spouses apparently "makes nonsense of morality and common sense".

What moralistic claptrap. Many hundreds of thousands of Britons choose to live together without being married - and the number is growing. Their relationships range from the disastrous to the wonderful - just like those of married people. So by what right does the Daily Mail - and its parliamentary poodles - talk as if they were somehow morally deficient?

Being married is not of itself a moral question, but one of preference. Looking after children properly is a moral issue. And protecting the weak from violence by the strong - that is a moral issue. What an outcome then. A triumph for abusers and a victory for batterers. Oh, and a great day for morality.

33% OFF
DUTY FREE



LE SHUTTLE OPENS UP THE BEST OF FRANCE.

With a crossing time of just 35 minutes platform to platform, Le Shuttle offers real speed on the journey to France with the smoothness of a good French wine. Appropriately we're giving away a free carafe of wine with a retail value of over \$50 with every full fare standard return ticket, and half a case of wine with a retail value of over \$35 with every short break return fare. The case includes Chateau Saint Robert of either red or white, awarded a Certificate of Excellence by the Institute of Masters of Wine, and the half case Chateau Barbe Blanc de Cuvée St Emilion and Les Chavignols Sancerre Blanc. You'll be able to pick up your wine from Espace Vins in the French Terminal Building on your return. To reserve

0990 35 35 35
Or go through your travel agent

le Shuttle

*"Wine Offer" must be requested at time of booking, cannot be applied retrospectively. Valid only on the purchase of a full fare short break or standard return ticket (excluding blue card) booked at least 7 days before departure. Carriage must be from Southampton. Not valid for flights or departures to/from any port or airport. Subject to availability. Tickets can only be used for one return and by returning the "Wine Offer" voucher. Offer only available for dates up to 6 months in advance. Cannot be combined with any other offer or promotion. Excludes children, students, seniors, groups or institutions. Offer excludes business class passengers. Tickets to and from London for each leg of the journey. Tickets are not available for overnight stays. In South Coast, tickets are held responsible for any lost vouchers. When a voucher is collected, your return journey is subject to the conditions of carriage, a copy is available on request. In South Coast, tickets are held responsible for any lost vouchers. When a voucher is collected, your return journey is subject to the conditions of carriage, a copy is available on request. In South Coast, tickets are held responsible for any lost vouchers. When a voucher is collected, your return journey is subject to the conditions of carriage, a copy is available on request.

Subscribe to BBC Music Magazine

for only £10.99* and receive a £5 HMV gift voucher FREE!

Subscribe to BBC Music Magazine today and not only will you be guaranteed your regular copy of the world's best-selling classical music magazine, but you will also receive a £5 HMV voucher free!

Together with a unique CD/cassette of a complete work or works, you'll find a wealth of authoritative articles and commentaries on composers, artists and performances plus up-to-date information on live concerts, radio and TV broadcasts and over 150 reviews of all the latest CD recordings in every issue.

And by subscribing now, you'll also receive a £5 voucher to spend in HMV, one of the UK's leading music stores.

This is a limited offer, so subscribe today to avoid disappointment!

ORDER BEFORE 31 JANUARY 1996 TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS SPECIAL OFFER

music Instruction in your Bank or Building Society to pay Direct Debit **DIRECT DEBIT**

Please fill in the whole form and send it to: BBC Music Magazine, FREEPOST (B27761), Welton, Notts G82 1TR.

1. Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society

To the manager: _____ Bank or Building Society

Branch address: _____ Postcode: _____

2. Name(s) of account holder(s) _____

3. Branch sort code (from the top right hand corner of your cheque) _____

4. Bank or Building Society account number _____

5. Reference number _____

6. Instruction to your Bank or Building Society. Please pay BBC Music Magazine Direct Debits from the account detailed on this instruction subject to the safeguards secured by the Direct Debit Guarantee.

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions from some types of account

The Direct Debit Guarantee

1. This Guarantee is offered by all Banks and Building Societies that take part in the Direct Debit Scheme. The efficiency and security of the scheme is monitored and protected by your own Bank or Building Society.

2. If the account is to be paid or the payment dates change, you will be told of this in advance by at least 14 days in advance.

3. If an error is made by BBC Music Magazine or your Bank or Building Society, you are guaranteed a full and immediate refund from your branch of the amount paid.

4. You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by writing to your Bank or Building Society. Please also send a copy of your letter to BBC Music Magazine.

☐ I would like to subscribe to BBC Music Magazine at the reduced price of £10.99 a quarter and receive a £5 HMV gift voucher absolutely free. I understand that once my Direct Debit instruction is received I will be sent the next available issue and CD/Cassette.

☐ This subscription is ☐ For myself ☐ A gift

☐ I would like my music on: ☐ CD ☐ Cassette

My Details

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Details for gift recipient

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Please send the voucher to ☐ myself ☐ the recipient of the gift (an acknowledgement will be sent to the recipient).

☐ Tick here if you do not wish to receive promotional mailings from other carefully screened companies whose products or services may be of interest.

Offer available to subscribers paying by Direct Debit and with a UK delivery address only. For overseas raise please call 01483 733745

YELTSIN ON THE BRINK

President may be sicker than first admitted

PHIL REEVES
HELEN WOMACK
Moscow

Aides to Boris Yeltsin yesterday struck a distinctly cautious note over his medical condition, raising fears that the Russian President's heart ailment is worse than they originally admitted, and strengthening doubts about his ability to remain in the Kremlin's top job for much longer.

His staff confirmed that he will not be hosting a conference in Moscow next Tuesday between the presidents of Bosnia, Serbia and Croatia — delivering a blow to his plans to use the summit to bolster his flagging popularity at home and his international standing.

Mr Yeltsin's press secretary, Sergei Medvedev, said the 64-year-old president would be under close medical supervision for more than five weeks, further damaging his chances of working behind the scenes to

support moderate pro-reform candidates in December's parliamentary elections. But he said the Russian leader, who is in hospital after his second bout of heart trouble in less than four months, had not at any point lost consciousness, and was under "active but not intensive therapy". He was being visited only by doctors, guards and members of his family.

Although he will probably be out of action for some time, the Kremlin continued to emphasise that Mr Yeltsin was still in charge. Mr Medvedev accused his political enemies of trying to exploit his illness, adding: "This is not just speculation. I have already observed it, but Yeltsin's boxer's instincts will come to the fore." He also revealed that Mr Yeltsin has the suitcase containing the so-called nuclear-launch button with him.

The Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, who under the Russian constitution would take over until an election was held

if Mr Yeltsin was incapacitated, was deliberately nonchalant when accosted on his way to a routine economic conference. "He's okay, he's okay, he's okay," he said, under siege from the media.

Mr Yeltsin was taken by helicopter on Thursday from a country residence to Moscow's Central Clinical Hospital, two days after arriving home from a gruelling four-day trip to France and the United States. Aides said he was exhausted towards the end of his trip, and had suffered a recurrence of the heart ailment, ischaemia.

Reporters were not invited to see his return home, spawning yet another conspiracy theory about the real state of his health, which the Kremlin has sought to cover up in the past — along with evidence of his heavy drinking. The popular daily *Moskovsky Komsomolets*, which has a reputation for sensationalism, yesterday noted that television viewers were

shown a picture of a cheerful Mr Yeltsin emerging from a plane and setting foot on wet tarmac. "It wasn't raining that day, either in Moscow or the Moscow region," said the paper, "maybe it was just a little local rain at the airport."

Another conspiracy theory was launched yesterday by the ultra-nationalist, Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, who announced, in

a typically outrageous remark, that enemy spies were responsible for Mr Yeltsin's relapse. "These are the intrigues of the foreign special intelligence services," he said, "Clinton needs a victory in the next election and if Yeltsin stays president of Russia, Clinton will lose the election. This is the dirty world of politics when people are killed so that another man on

the other side of the world could again become a president."

But on the streets of Moscow, news of Mr Yeltsin's condition continued to be greeted by widespread indifference. Grigory Livshits, a former engineer who now drives a taxi, said he would feel sorry if he died — but added: "I wouldn't be voting for him again anyway."

Official view: Boris Yeltsin's spokesman, Igor Ignatyev, briefing the press in Moscow on the President's condition

Photograph: Sergei Karpukhin/AP

Bosnia rift adds to Washington's fears

TIM CORNWELL
Washington

Russian soldiers rode the Kansas prairie yesterday under the eye of their Defence Minister, Pavel Grachev. Three hundred US and Russian troops engaged in a fictional peace-keeping mission in Kansas, a thinly disguised Bosnia, were followed by squadrons of translators. The US has paid \$1.2m (£750,000) for the Russians' food and lodging, even supplying aviation fuel for the flight from Moscow in the name of military fraternity.

Relations at the top are hardly so cordial. General Grachev and his US counterpart, William Perry, visited Kansas together but after hours of talks they appeared deadlocked yesterday on how to include Russian troops in a Bosnian peace-keeping force without putting them under Nato command, which Russia has strongly opposed.

The backslapping earlier this week between Presidents Bill Clinton and Boris Yeltsin belied sharp disputes between the US and Russia over Nato's eastward expansion, a Russian nuclear reactor deal with Iran, ratifica-

US REACTION

tion of the Start-2 treaty and a string of other issues. Mr Yeltsin's hospitalisation with a second heart attack on Thursday underscored the dangers of relying on him as the pivot of the relationship. He appears to want concessions on Bosnia, but Mr Perry and General Grachev's task of working out "details" founded in his absence.

As a result, Russia risked being marginalised when US officials present a draft peace agreement to leaders of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia at a peace conference in Dayton, Ohio, next week. For the record, Washington insists Mr Yeltsin's illness will have "no impact" on Bosnia.

The politically correct US has learned to live with a man who drinks and pinches secretaries but has appeared to stay politically alive despite a history of health and psychological problems, said a Russia expert, John Hardt. If he leaves office, however, Washington continues to see, and hope for, the Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, as his most likely successor. But the US is newly cautious of his lack of charisma and questionable political support.

IN BRIEF

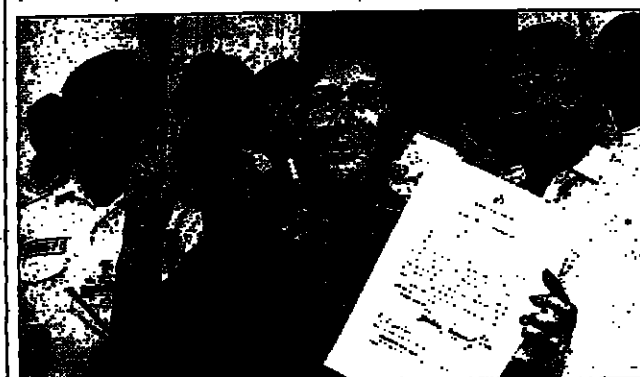
Sniper kills soldier at North Carolina base

Fort Bragg, North Carolina — A sniper opened fire on hundreds of soldiers exercising in the pre-dawn fog at Fort Bragg, killing one and wounding 18, some critically. A soldier stationed at the base was arrested. The shooting happened near the entrance to Towle Stadium, where members of the 82nd Airborne Division do calisthenics before starting work. The suspect, who was not named, was being questioned yesterday, a spokesman said. Fort Bragg, which has 43,000 assigned troops, is an open post, which means people can come and go as they please. AP

US Senate set to approve budget package

Washington — The Senate edged towards passage of watershed Republican plans for constricting social spending, cutting taxes and balancing the budget, a day after Republicans forced a similar package through the House. The overall Republican package would revamp the Medicare and Medicaid programmes for the elderly and the poor, lop \$245bn (£160bn) off tax bills and trim projected federal spending by \$1 trillion over seven years. President Bill Clinton, who says the cuts are too harsh, will veto the package when he is sent a finished version, perhaps next month. That will set the table for bargaining that will decide whether the year ends with a compromise deficit-reduction measure or partisan finger-pointing. AP

Imelda Marcos sworn in as MP



Manila — Imelda Marcos (above) took her oath as the newest member of the House of Representatives, five months after a landslide victory in the congressional race. The widow of former president Ferdinand Marcos was sworn in by Chief Justice Andres Narvasa, one of the nine judges who ruled on Wednesday that Mrs Marcos could take her seat in Congress after dismissing a motion questioning her candidacy. AP

Chemobyl reactor shut down

Kiev — One of two working reactors at Chemobyl was shut because of defects in a refuelling system, the director of the station, site of the world's worst nuclear accident, said. "Problems were discovered inside the system for loading fresh fuel," Sergei Parashin said. "We are in the process of taking the reactor off line gradually for a week's time." Reuters

Hunt ends in death of North Korean spy

Seoul — A North Korean spy was fatally shot when he tried to break through a cordon of commandos on a thickly wooded mountain. Park Kwang Nam had been on the run since Tuesday, when he escaped a shoot-out that killed a South Korean policeman and left his compatriot, Kim Do Shik, in custody. AP

New view cuts short Million Men

Boston — Experts who re-examined photographs and video footage of the Million Man March, a black men's rally in Washington earlier this month, lowered their estimate and said they believed 837,000 people attended. The count was more than double the official estimate of 400,000 initially provided by the National Park Service, and lower than the estimates of up to 2 million by the Nation of Islam, which helped organise the rally. AP

GINGER, THE PILOT, WAS ATTRACTED BY THE INCREDIBLY LOW RATE...

60% OFF THE STANDARD VARIABLE RATE... I CAN'T WAIT!

SKOOOSH

Ginger the Pilot jumped from his plane, the Nationwide branch and its exciting mortgage discounts for homebuyers getting closer below him. He'd considered landing first, but with the range of rates available, and thoughts of a £300 cashback and free valuation streaming his goggles up, his attention had soon turned to the parachute. It was the message from

Minimum Deposit	1 year Discounts	2 year Discounts	3 year Discounts
25%	5.30%	2.80%	2.00%
15%	4.80%	2.70%	1.85%
5%	4.30%	2.55%	1.75%

Nationwide
THE 'BUILDING' SOCIETY.

base 'Ginger, do you want 60% off your monthly payment, over?' that finally made him jump. We should count our lucky stars that Ginger the Fighter Pilot never realised his childhood ambition of becoming Ginger the Airline Pilot. So follow Ginger and drop into your local branch or call free on 0800 30 20 10 quoting reference PV06.

Find us on the Internet at <http://www.nationwide.co.uk/nationwide>

2.7%
APR
(variable)

Swing quoted can be made by taking 5.30% discount off our standard variable rate for one year 'locking' in our standard monthly mortgage payments. Example assumes a variable rate of 2.64% after a 5.30% discount off our standard variable interest rate of 7.94% (APR 8.28% (variable)). A couple (male and female) under 25 applying for a £40,000 standard variable mortgage over 25 years on a purchase price of £93,000 (example assumes a deposit of 40%). Monthly payment £113.74 net of MARS at 15%. APR 2.72% (variable). APDs are based on 1 year discounts applying for the term of the mortgage. In practice the discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of £57. A typical first time buyer would benefit from the Society's standard variable mortgage rate of 2.72% APR. The discount rate period the Society's standard variable mortgage rate will apply. Total amount payable (TAP) £93,326. 300 mortgage and endowment payments, reduction mortgage costs £100 including VAT (taxes) (see advice on for both the Society and the borrower), redemption fee of

THE BRINK

Military a wild card in political calculation

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY
Defence Correspondent

The Russian armed forces have traditionally steered clear of politics, but they have been unable to ignore it since the 1991 coup attempt, when their refusal to fire on their own people and to join the conspiracy against Mikhail Gorbachev tipped the balance in the president's favour. But the views of senior officers vary widely, and it would be unwise for any political leader — or even a military man

seeking presidential office — to count on the support of a vast and disparate organisation which is still in crisis. The Russian military, still 1.5 million strong, is in no sense a united political body, as its response to the Russian parliament's revolt against Boris Yeltsin in 1993 showed. It is a force of just 1,700 troops in the White House and co-stored President Yeltsin's authority, the Russians drew from

five different divisions, totalling 75,000 troops, in the Moscow military district. A senior Russian officer said every tank-crew member was an officer, and half the infantry used were officers or senior NCOs. The commanders clearly had to pick their soldiers carefully. Of likely presidential candidates, General Alexander Lebed, the charismatic former commander of the 14th Army, would probably gain most support from the armed forces, who see him as a strong opponent of

the corruption which has crippled the military. General Pavel Grachev, the Defence Minister, on the other hand, had very little respect within the military before the Chechnya débâcle, and now has even less. In August 1994, before the abysmally handled operation which claimed thousands of Russian as well as Chechen lives, a poll among 615 generals and colonels found that President Yeltsin had the trust of under 30 per cent, and fewer than 20 per cent trusted

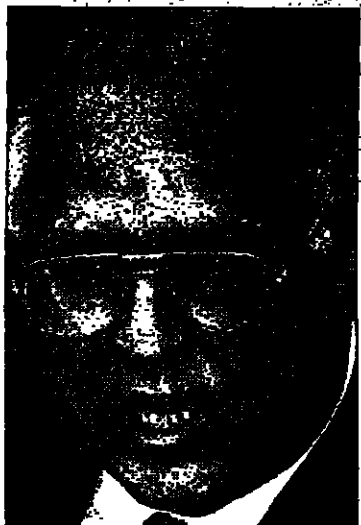
Gen Grachev. But half said they trusted generals Alexander Lebed and Boris Gromov. The poll was revealing: 80 per cent of top ranking military officers favoured an authoritarian form of government, and 20 per cent believed a military putsch was likely in the next two years. Only a quarter said they approved of the use of force to defend the president or parliament, and a worrying 64 per cent dismissed Western-style democracy as unsuitable for Russian conditions.

Gen Lebed was widely praised when, as the commander of the 14th Army, he publicly criticised the deputy defence minister, General Matvei Burlakov. He said there was no point Gen Burlakov coming to see the 14th Army because there was "nothing to steal", and that if he did he would have him arrested. This crusade against corruption is Gen Lebed's strongest card. The chief military procurator recently wrote an open letter to Gen Grachev, published in the

Moscow News, citing various generals by name and accusing them of corruption. Gen Lebed has no economic policy and probably would not be a strong enough candidate to stand alone. However, if he joined forces with the technocrats, led by a former Security Council member, Yuri Skokov, with the Civic Union or with Vladimir Zhirinovskiy's Liberal Democratic Party, he could be a significant asset. Below this level, the Russian armed forces are probably as diverse in their political views as

the rest of the country. With conscripts refusing to answer the call-up, the ratio of officers to non-officers is estimated at one-to-one. Not only have officers, who enjoyed high status in Soviet society, been doing guard duty; they have also on occasions had to do double shifts. As well as the chronic under-manning, Russian units have been preoccupied with feeding themselves and keeping warm. Training standards, and morale, appear at an all-time low.

The men who matter in Moscow: Big players in the power game



Viktor Chernomyrdin

One obvious front-runner is Viktor Chernomyrdin, Prime Minister and the man who stands in for Mr Yeltsin when the latter is incapacitated by alleged alcohol abuse, heart attacks, or both. Mr Chernomyrdin formed a political party, called Our Home is Russia, which was soon dubbed the party of government, because of the preponderance in its ranks of government apparatchiks and ex-apparatchiks. Mr Chernomyrdin himself used to be boss of the giant Soviet gas and minerals conglomerate, Gazprom. He initially expressed strong reservations about the market economy ("a bazaar"), but gained international brownie points by demonstrating a commitment to keeping economic reform on track. During the hostage crisis in Budynovsk earlier this year, he impressed Russians and international observers alike with his unexpectedly cool decisiveness in difficult circumstances. Not a man of vision, but perhaps a safe pair of hands.



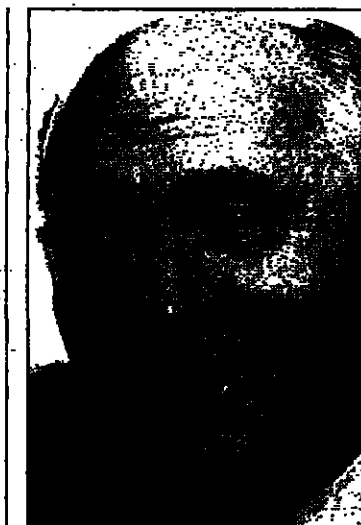
Alexander Lebed

Alexander Lebed, a former Soviet general, is an unpredictable figure who seems to believe he is the man to save Russia. His politics are unclear, but his core support comes from those who feel that a *slavaya nika*, or strong hand is needed, to run the country — a potentially large constituency. He criticised Russia's war in Chechnya, but not because he was soft on the Chechens. His criticism appeared to be that the war had been fought badly, rather than the fact that it was fought at all. Until recently, he was commander of the Russian troops in the former Soviet republic of Moldova, where ethnic Russians and Moldovans (Romanians) have fought a low-key war in recent years. Yuri Skokov, General Lebed's fellow-leader of the Congress of Russian Communities, is seen by some as his future rival. President Yeltsin himself has been keen to stoke such speculation in recent weeks — not least, perhaps, in order to put General Lebed and Mr Skokov at each other's throats, and thus divide their support.



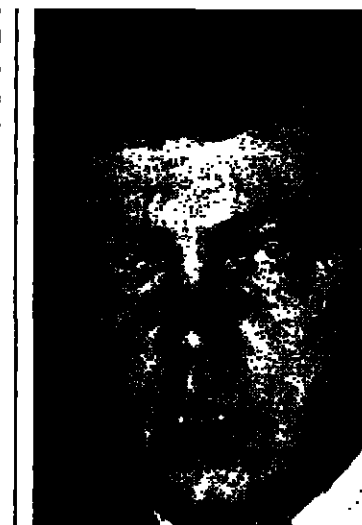
Vladimir Zhirinovskiy

The pathologically self-confident Vladimir Zhirinovskiy has always been flamboyant, with his extremist nationalism. Yesterday, in typical form, he appeared to blame Mr Yeltsin's illness on the machinations of President Clinton and the CIA. Mr Zhirinovskiy's neo-fascist Liberal Democrats gained a large slice of the vote at the last parliamentary elections, in 1993. His recipe of Make Russia Great Again went down well with the embittered voters, who were happy to blame Jews and assorted foreigners for Russia's ills. There is plenty of bitterness still around. But Mr Zhirinovskiy has begun to be perceived as a *kloun*, even by his former supporters. One possible alternative for the discontented might be the Communist Party leader, Gennady Zyuganov. Communist support has grown in the past year.



Mikhail Gorbachev

A potential candidate who is more highly regarded in the West than in Russia itself is Mikhail Gorbachev. The former international superstar, who is now almost entirely ignored by his compatriots, runs the Gorbachev Foundation, and — like his old friend, Baroness Thatcher — spends much of his time on the international lecture and chat-show circuit. At home, the former Soviet leader is still distrusted by the liberals — who feel that he put the brake on radical reform, as opposed to Communist perestroika — and hated by the hard-liners — who argue that he destroyed the wonderful and flourishing Soviet Union. But there is less open hostility to him than there was a year or two ago. At least he has shown himself to be (a) honest and (b) not a lunatic, which is more than can be said for many Russian politicians today.



Grigory Yavlinsky

One of the liberals' few remaining hopes is Grigory Yavlinsky, who came to prominence in the dying days of the Soviet Union, when he created a radical economic plan in 1990 which was rejected by Mr Gorbachev. His party, Yabloko, — an acronym for the "Yavlinsky bloc" — receives the support of some of the tiny band of liberal Russian voters. One of the other liberals is the former prime minister Yegor Gaidar, who was the main architect of Russia's economic reform programme, and became very unpopular as a result. At the moment, Mr Yavlinsky's chances look poor. But it is perhaps worth noting that predictions about Russian politics have a poor track record. Disillusion is so great that "a plague on all their houses" tends to be the commonest voters' response. As a result, sure-fire winners can turn out to perform badly, and no-hopers can easily come in first. That, of course, includes Mr Yeltsin himself, the man who has been written off more often than any other politician in the entire Russian Federation.

West fears for its new ties with Moscow

SARAH HELM
Brussels

Doubts about Boris Yeltsin's health produced a ripple of nervousness within Nato and the European Union, adding new uncertainty to the West's faltering attempts to redefine its relationship with Eastern Europe and Russia. The Kremlin crisis also raised strong doubts in Brussels over whether Russia will be able to play a full role in peace talks aimed at finalising a settlement for the former Yugoslavia. Without the support of Russia for the US-led peace effort, the entire deal could be in jeopardy. In recent days the Nato alliance has been encouraging Mr Yeltsin to accept a formula for a Nato peace-enforcement force which could allow Russian forces to take part in monitoring ceasefire lines and curbing any new outbreaks of violence. Moscow has insisted it must play a role in the deployment, but has refused to place its forces under Nato command. The latest formula, which Nato had hoped would be acceptable to Moscow, envisages giving the Russian troops non-combat tasks. However, negotiations on the force will be severely set back if doubts intensify about Mr Yeltsin's future. In the days of the Cold War any hint that a Soviet leader might be unwell put Nato on high alert. Today, under the new Partnership for Peace plan, top Russian diplomats have regular access to Nato ambas-

sadors at the Brussels headquarters. However, many of the alliance's best-laid plans could still be thrown into reverse should Russia enter a period of internal political turmoil. Criticism from Moscow has already forced Nato to slow down its much-vaunted plans to enlarge its membership to the East. Moscow has accused the alliance of seeking to isolate Russia by extending its nuclear umbrella to the Eastern Europeans and bringing them inside the Nato club. A more nationalist figure at the head of the Kremlin would almost certainly take a confrontational approach towards Nato's eastward expansion plans. Although the crucial East-West conventional-arms control agreement, CFE, is now largely tied up, there are still doubts about Moscow's willingness to enforce some of its requirements. Again, should a less cooperative leader replace Mr Yeltsin, Nato could find itself opening up a CFE negotiations once more. Uncertainty in Moscow also complicates the Brussels debate over the future of the EU. Like Nato, the EU is planning eastern expansion over the next two decades. This too causes resentment in Moscow. Any doubts about stability in the Russian capital may encourage member-states, already stalling at the complexity of the task, to take a more cautious approach.

ADVERTISEMENT

Looking For a Present?

Solve your present buying problems NOW by choosing from this selection of beautifully bound and jacketed hardback books from bestselling author
Vernon Coleman

For a cricket lover:
The Village Cricket Tour will give hours of pleasure. A novel which describes the adventures and mishaps of a team of amateur cricketers who spend two weeks of their summer holidays on a cricket tour of the West Country and which has been compared to Jerome K Jerome's classic "Three Men in a Boat". "I enjoyed it immensely" wrote Peter Tinniswood in Punch. "He has succeeded in writing a book that will entertain, a book that will amuse and warm the cockles of tired hearts." "Coleman is a very funny writer," said This England. "It would be a pity if cricketers were the only people to read this book." "Seminal reading includes de Selincourt and Blunden and should now embrace Vernon Coleman's latest offering, a whimsical piece about the peregrinations of a village cricket team on its summer tour," said The Cricketer magazine. "All the characters are here, woven together by a raft of anecdotes and reminiscences and a travelogue of some of the most picturesque spots in the south west." A marvellous present for all cricket lovers.

For a golf lover:
Anyone who likes golf will love The Man Who Inherited a Golf Course. This superb novel tells the story of Trevor Dukinfield who wakes up one morning to find that he is the owner of his very own golf club — fairways, bunkers, clubhouse and all. There's one snag: to keep the club he must win a golf match. And he's never played a round of golf in his life. "The scenario is tailor made for Vernon Coleman's light and amusing anecdotes about country life and pursuits" said the Sunday Independent. "Very readable!" said Golf World. "Hugely enjoyable in the best tradition of British comic writing" said the Evening Chronicle. "The mix of anecdotes and moments of sheer farce make for an absorbing read" said the Evening Telegraph. A terrific present for anyone who enjoys golf. Far more fun than another pair of socks or a bottle of aftershave.

For a cat lover:
Feline fans will love Alice's Diary which tells of a year in the life of a mixed tabby cat. Alice shows us, with great humour and insight, what it is really like to be a cat. Our files are bursting with letters from readers who love this book. "What a wonderful book, so beautifully written, it was a great pleasure to read" wrote Mrs Y of Essex. "Please send copies of Alice's Diary to the eleven friends on the accompanying list. It is a wonderful book which will give them all great pleasure," wrote Mr R of Lancashire. Alice's Diary is delightfully illustrated throughout. But we warn you: when you see it you may not want to give it away! An absolute must for all cat and animal lovers. Guaranteed to give more joy and laughter than almost any other present you can choose.

OUR PEACE OF MIND GUARANTEE TO YOU
If for any reason you are not happy with your books then we guarantee that your money will be refunded. Simply return any unwanted books in good condition within 21 days of receipt and you will be sent a full refund — no questions asked. We can offer this guarantee with confidence because we can't remember when anyone last sent back one of our novels! This 24-carat gold guarantee means that you can order today RISK FREE!

To order simply complete the coupon below and send it along with your cheque/PO (payable to Publishing House) to: Sales Office IN8, Publishing House, Trinity Place, Devon EX32 9HJ. We aim to despatch all orders within 48 hours. Insert in box number of books required and total cost. Post and packing is FREE.

No.	£	No.	£
Man Who Inherited a Golf Course £12.95		Alice's Diary £9.95	
The Village Cricket Tour £9.95		TOTALS	

Name _____ Address _____
Post Code _____

"Vernon Coleman writes brilliant books"
The Good Book Guide

SUN ALLIANCE
TOGETHER WE MAKE SOME ALLIANCE

FROM SUN ALLIANCE, A FLEXIBLE PENSION THAT CAN SEE YOU THROUGH THICK and THIN

Signing up for a pension plan can be a bit hair-raising. What if you found yourself in the middle of a divorce, facing a large bill, or you suddenly lost your job? Wouldn't you want your contributions to stop if your salary did? They could with a Sun Alliance personal pension. It's flexible, so you can stop or start when you like. Increase or decrease payments when it suits you, all without fuss or penalties.

Unlike many pensions, we don't take a big lump of commission and charges up front. They're kept low and spread out over the life of the plan, so your money works harder for you from day one. And if you change your mind in the first 30 days, we'll give you a refund of your initial monthly payment, no questions asked.

For more help and an information pack speak to your financial adviser, clip the coupon or phone free on

0800 300 844
Monday to Friday - 8.30am to 5.30pm

Please send me more information about starting a new style Personal Pension with Sun Alliance.

Surname: _____ First Name: _____
Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Other): _____ Date of Birth: _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____
Tel No: (Work) _____ (Home) _____

Do you currently have an Independent Financial Adviser? Yes ☐ No ☐

Please return this coupon to: Pension Customer Service Centre, Sun Alliance Life & Pensions, Freeport, RCG 2980, Leicester, LE1 7ZU.
As part of our overall service, we may telephone you in connection with this enquiry.

The value of this can go down as well as up. The annual value of this is the amount with profits and may be adjusted up or down to take account of investment market conditions. An adviser or recommendations given in relation to life insurance, pensions or investments with reference to the products of the Sun Alliance Life Marketing Group. Minimum contribution each month: Sun Alliance and London Assurance Co. Ltd No 894618, Sun Alliance Limited Life Insurance Ltd No 894619, Sun Alliance Life Insurance Ltd No 894620, Sun Alliance Life Insurance Ltd No 894621, are regulated by the Financial Services Authority. These companies are members of the Sun Alliance Life Marketing Group and are registered in England. The Registered Office of each is 1 Bartholomew Lane, London EC2N 2AB.

international

Chirac could find that entente not so cordiale

MARY DEJEVSKY
Paris

Jacques Chirac arrives in Britain tomorrow for his first summit on British soil since taking office in June. After an unhappy few months in the international arena, in which France has been isolated over nuclear testing, ceded ascendancy in the West's Bosnia policy to Washington, had to calm German worries about the franc and been made to look foolish by Algeria, the French President can look forward to two days of relative calm, first at Chequers, and then in London.

But the high hopes for the British-French relationship,

raised at least by the British side after the first Major-Chirac summit in June, do not seem to have been entirely justified. The active role taken by President Bill Clinton in former Yugoslavia has left the celebrated British-French co-operation on the sidelines. While military collaboration in Bosnia appears to be flourishing, competition for the diplomatic credit has left Paris and London arguing about who will host what sort of Bosnia conference as the prospect of peace draws closer.

What appeared to be Britain's ambition of gaining a bilateral relationship resembling that between France and Germany seems also to have

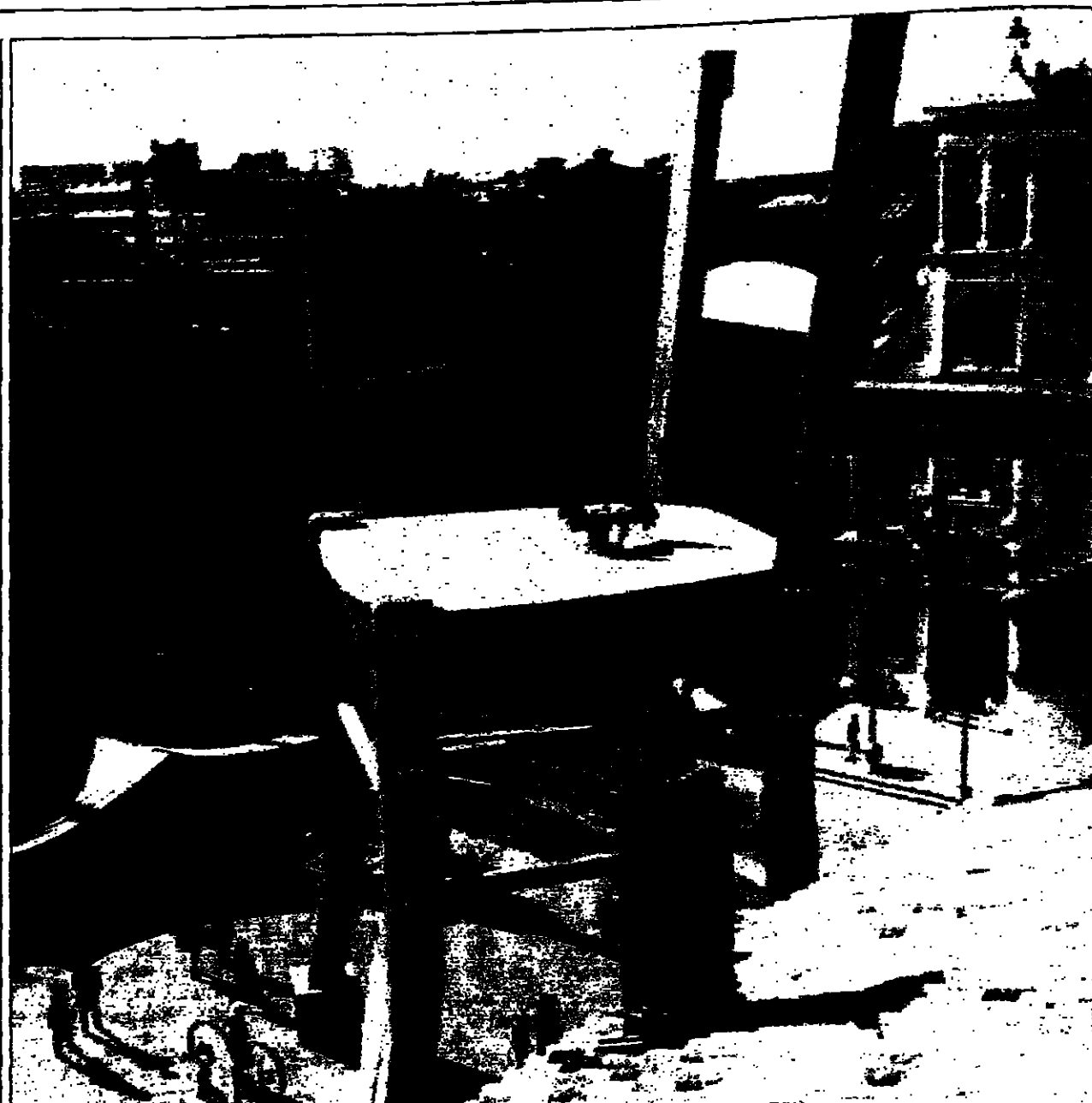
been disappointed, or at least to be proceeding more slowly than anticipated. Although there are visible strains between Paris and Bonn, over what Bonn sees as the laxness of the French government's economic policy and its backsliding on implementing the Schengen agreement on open borders, the "special relationship" persists, and it has not been augmented by a French-British equivalent.

The fact remains that, as Mr Chirac noted in June, the Franco-German alliance is a "necessity", even if officials on both sides concede that relations have rarely been worse. It is hard to imagine Mr

Chirac flying to London at short notice, as he did to Bonn this week, to reassure John Major that Paris was not changing its priorities.

One notable point of agreement between Britain and France in advance of this week-end's meeting is the "excellent" state of bilateral relations and the equally "excellent" state of personal relations between Mr Chirac and Mr Major.

However, the two sides clearly differ on the weight they give to this personal element. For Britain, it tops the bill; for France, it comes close to the bottom, after the hard practicalities of military, defence, and foreign policy co-operation.



It's a funny old game: Olivier Bierhoff, Udinese football club's German striker, designed the 62ft wooden chair that stands in the north Italian town of Udine. He is seen conducting an interview on his creation. Photograph: AP

Cautious Britain goes tactical on the 'Battlenet'

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY
Defence Correspondent

The Internet has finally left the air-conditioned environment of the office and arrived among the mud and blood of the battlefield.

Britain has lagged behind the US, France and Germany in plugging its frontline and support troops into the "tactical Internet". But on Monday a new organisation will be launched within the Ministry of Defence to oversee "digitisation", which will be essential to operating with Nato allies. The thinking is that the side able to respond to information fastest will win.

Well, maybe. Britain's caution about the "Battlenet" may have been wise: in April last year US forces tried out the "tactical Internet" against an old-fashioned opposition force and lost. The reason? They spent too much time staring at computer screens and not enough shooting at the enemy. An armoured corps officer pointed out that his tank commanders would be too busy avoiding tree stumps or looking out for the enemy to pay much attention to the waves of information on their screens. It seems he had a point.

"Britain's allies are already under way with battlefield management systems, and the likelihood of coalition operations demands that Britain does the same," Colonel Cedric Burton of the Ministry of Defence told the *International Defence Review* (IDR). Brigadier Martin Lance has been made chief of "land command information systems" — the Battlenet.

The US established an Army

Digitisation Office a year ago. The world's armed forces have a plethora of different command, control and communications systems, developed since the late 1970s, but until now nobody paid much attention to getting all the different systems to talk to each other.

Digitisation means developing a network of rugged computers which will talk to each other, passing information up and down the chain of command and sideways to supporting and adjacent units. Rupert Pengelly, IDR editor, said: "It is just what people do in their offices these days translated on to the battlefield." All commanders on the Battlenet are fed information from command levels below them and from organisations either side.

The information, passed in coded form between specially "ruggedised" computers, can tell them the state of the units under their command or, at the flick of a switch, give them the big picture from satellites or unmanned aerial vehicles as a vast enemy offensive wheels round the other side of the hill. There is no need to send a "contact report" when you stumble on the enemy — the Battlenet does it automatically.

Logisticians can instantly find out how much ammunition the artillery has fired, or is firing, and, without being asked, direct ammunition to where it is needed first. Many older officers fear there will be too much information, but Mr Pengelly was more optimistic.

"Soldiers nowadays were brought up on video games. They're very quick to discard what they don't need," he said.

Fairy-tale ends for Berlusconi

ANDREW GUMBEL
Rome

When Silvio Berlusconi was Prime Minister of Italy last year, he said he felt "anointed by the Lord" and the bearer of a divine mission. Yesterday, having clamorously failed to unseat his successor, Lamberto Dini, in a parliamentary no-confidence vote, he was casting himself in rather humbler light.

"I feel like Snow White in a world without fairy-tales," he said, clearly feeling the pinch of humiliation as a key ally in his push to topple the government,



Berlusconi: Blunder too far?

the far-left Rifondazione Comunista, pulled out at the last moment. The rules of business don't seem to apply to politics ... Once upon a time Communists were serious people."

This was more than uncomfortable bleating from a wounded leader. Among Mr Berlusconi's colleagues in his patchwork conservative coalition, the Freedom Alliance, the talk was openly of whether this no-confidence vote was one blunder too many, and whether the time had come to find someone else to lead the Italian centre-right.

"I get the impression that another candidate has emerged in the last few days," one of Mr Berlusconi's newer allies, the Christian Democrat leader Rocco Buttiglione, said with an enigmatic smile. Although he did not say so in as many words, Mr Buttiglione, and indeed much of the Christian Democrat component in the Freedom Alliance, have been pushing to nominate the former head of state, Francesco Cossiga, as their prime ministerial candidate.

A man wholly identified with the old political order, Mr Cossiga is, frankly, an unlikely choice. But the threat to Mr Berlusconi's authority is very real, and is likely to intensify once a timetable is established for Italy's much-heralded next general election. After all, this is a man who promised the world when he spectacularly entered politics at the beginning of last year, but whose record has proved him to be far more talk than action.

The coalition with which Mr Berlusconi won the March 1994 general elections fell apart after seven turbulent months in which he failed to deliver on any of his key campaign promises. Since his resignation he has ceaselessly pressed for fresh elections, but failed to obtain them. He has tried to woo both Mr Dini and the popular former anti-corruption magistrate, Antonio Di Pietro, into his political movement, but managed only to alienate them.

And now, starting in January, his trial on charges of corruption relating to his Fininvest business empire risks turning him into a serious electoral liability. His chief ally, the leader of the former neo-Fascist Na-

tional Alliance, Gianfranco Fini, has talked openly about reconsidering Mr Berlusconi's position, stopping short only of the obvious consequence — nominating himself in his place.

Mr Berlusconi is likely to prove a hard man to dislodge, however. Not only does he have charisma, populist appeal and the allegiance of scores of former business associates turned politicians, but he also has the one weapon the entire political spectrum envies him for: his three private television stations.

One possibility is that Mr Berlusconi takes a back seat, acting as political godfather to the centre-right but allowing someone else to run for prime minister. But even that will take some persuading, given Mr Berlusconi's hard-bitten ambition and his clear relish at being the centre of attention.

"You say the Alliance needs a new manager?" he said on Thursday night in a response to a joke about the soccer team he owns, AC Milan. "Well I didn't score too many victories in my first year at Milan, but once I started winning I didn't stop."

LEAVE IT ALL BEHIND YOU

Get 12% off *Airbus* and *Asprey* Winter Sun holidays when you visit your local Thomas Cook shop or phone our credit card booking line on 01733 35 55 70 quoting TC 258 because we're the best in the relaxation business.



Thomas Cook

Offer is available for bookings confirmed between 21st October-31st November. Offer applies to Aircoach Winter Sun and Asprey Winter Sun brochured holidays, departing between 1 November and 31 December 1995, and is subject to the purchase of Thomas Cook Insurance. A 4% charge per passenger applies to all travel related credit card bookings. *Swish and major credit cards accepted. Open Monday to Friday 9am-5.30pm, Saturday 9am-5pm. All holidays subject to availability. The Thomas Cook Group Ltd, AFCA 20006, acting as Agents for Aircoach, ATOL 1170.

First mortgage?

If you're a first-time buyer, you need to talk to Barclays.

3.75%
DISCOUNT

£200 cashback and a free valuation up to £250

TYPICAL
APR 7.9%

Call us free on 0800 000 929

and quote ref: IND 14

Lines are open Monday to Friday 9.00am – 9.00pm
Saturday and Sunday 10.00am – 2.00pm

**YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS
ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.**

The 3.75% discount off the Variable Barclays Mortgage Rate (currently 7.99%), is available for the first 12 months from the date your mortgage is drawn. This means a rate of 4.24% APR 7.99%. Example: a £40,000, 25 year endowment mortgage, total gross amount payable £118,642.12, loan repaid in one amount after 25 years, monthly net interest payments of £125.43 for the first 12 months and £236.37 per month thereafter. This assumes tax relief at 15% on the first £30,000, legal costs of £150 and one year's typical Buildings Only Insurance premium of £92.25. Customers must take out a Barclays Household Insurance Policy which should remain in force for the discounted period. Available on all new endowment, pension linked and repayment mortgages of £15,001 or more. All mortgages must be drawn within six months of any offer being made. Free valuation up to £250. If the cost of the valuation exceeds £250, the first £250 will be paid. We will pay for one valuation. The cashback will be made by cheque and dispatched within 28 days after the mortgage has been drawn. Not available in the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man. Mortgage Indemnity cover will be payable if the loan exceeds 80% of the purchase price or Bank's valuation whichever is lower. The Bank will require a first charge over the property and a first charge of an acceptable life policy (or policies). To apply for a Barclays mortgage, you must be 18 or over. Subject to status. A written quotation is available on request from any Barclays branch or from Barclays Bank PLC, Mortgage Information Unit, PO Box 120, Longwood Close, Westwood Business Park, Coventry CV4 8JN. Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. Barclays Bank PLC represents only the Barclays Marketing Group for life insurance, pensions and unit trust business.



BARCLAYS

صلى الله عليه وسلم

David Orr reports from Dar es Salaam on the clamour to reform a system in which corruption has reached epidemic proportions



March-past: Soldiers in Dar es Salaam parading in honour of President Ali Hassan Mwinyi this week in the run-up to the elections

Poll rivals promise to clean up Tanzania

In East Africa's largest country tomorrow they will try to achieve what could not be accomplished last Sunday on two small islands off the coast: holding elections untainted by allegations of fraud and vote-rigging.

The presidential and parliamentary polls in Tanzania are the first multi-party elections since independence from Britain in 1961. They have been blighted by reports of irregularities during last weekend's elections in Zanzibar, which retained the right to elect its own parliament and president when it united with the mainland in 1964.

Victory in Zanzibar is expected to give the ruling Chama Cha Mapinduzi (Party of the Revolution - CCM) a boost in tomorrow's national poll, in which its main rival is the National Convention for Construction and Reform (NCCR). At the forefront of both parties' campaigns is the issue of cor-

ruption, which has reached epidemic levels. Both presidential candidates have been promising to rid Tanzania of the scourge.

The CCM's Benjamin Mkapa, a protégé of Tanzania's founding father, Julius Nyerere, is claimed to have clean hands, though the image of his party is far from unsullied. Since Mr Nyerere handed the presidency over to Ali Hassan Mwinyi in 1985, the CCM has become increasingly associated with corruption, which Mr Mkapa has pledged to eradicate. He wants to break with the regime of Mr Mwinyi, who is barred from standing for a third term.

The last five years have been ones of unchecked corruption in high places, said Jenerali Ulimwengu, an MP and chairman of the Dimba newspaper group.

The NCCR's candidate, Augustin Mrema, is a former CCM minister sacked for speaking out

against the embezzlement of public funds. He is also being touted as a man dedicated to cleaning up Tanzanian politics. So serious has corruption become that international donors are withholding funding until they are satisfied that steps are being taken to eradicate it - Britain has suspended £8.5m. "This went right up to the level of ministers taking bribes for not enforcing the tax laws," said a Western diplomatic source.

While Mr Mkapa is considered to be committed to reform, he is likely to encounter fierce resistance within his own party. His rival, Mr Mrema, has based his campaign almost exclusively on the corruption issue.

The greatest challenge for the victor will be in devising accountable politics. While the politicians might all be "Nyerere's men", they will have to be much more if they are to satisfy the demands of Tanzanians.

Mexican guerrillas hold peso to ransom

PHIL DAVISON
Latin America Correspondent

Stunned by the collapse of the peso and a stock-market slide, the Mexican government backed down yesterday in its latest dispute with the Zapatista peasant guerrillas in the state of Chiapas.

The Attorney-General's office moved to free Fernando Yañez, a former 1960s guerrilla leader who, they say, is Commandante German, co-founder of the Zapatista National Liberation Army. He was arrested last Saturday on charges of illegal possession of an AK-47 rifle and a pistol. He said they had been planted by police.

His detention sparked new unease in Chiapas. The guerrillas went on military red alert and their leader, Subcomandante Marcos, considered breaking off long-running peace talks with the government.

The threat of renewed warfare in Chiapas was a key factor in Thursday's collapse of the peso, which fell by 6 per cent through the psychological level of seven to the dollar, to close at 7.23. Disappointing economic data added to what dealers described as "sheer panic". The peso picked up slightly yesterday but dealers said the market was still volatile.

On Thursday the government disclosed that the economy had contracted by 5.8 per cent in the first half of the year, casting doubt on President Ernesto Zedillo's insistence on a turn-round into positive growth by the first quarter of 1996. Inflation statistics were also disappointing, with 1.1 per cent for the first half of Octo-

ber, suggesting the predicted rate of 45 per cent for 1995 would be hard to achieve.

As always after economic sneezing in Mexico, stock markets from Buenos Aires to Wall Street caught colds. Although there were other factors on Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average had its worst day in three months. American investors recall that Mexico's last crisis, which forced the US to spearhead a \$50bn (£32bn) international bail-out, followed hard on unrest in Chiapas.

The latest run on the peso was the third time the Zapatista tail has wagged the Mexican dog on currency and stock markets since Mr Zedillo took office last December. A brief Zapatista occupation of Chiapas towns last December undermined Mr Zedillo's control and sparked peso selling.

Mexico's underlying financial problems were the reason for the ensuing economic crisis, but the Zapatista move was undoubtedly a catalyst.

In February, Mr Zedillo's credibility was further battered after he ordered a military assault on the Zapatistas and announced arrest warrants for its non-Indian, intellectual leaders. After an outcry, he backed down and halted the assault. The warrants were later suspended as peace talks began.

The apparent breaking of this promise in the case of Mr Yañez angered the Zapatistas and their supporters throughout Mexico, even though he denied any link with the Zapatistas. After Thursday's economic damage, however, the government apparently decided releasing him was worth the price.

Massacre unit trained by British

HUGH O'SHAUGHNESSY

Guatemalan soldiers who massacred 10 former refugees and wounded scores more earlier this month belonged to a unit that was trained by British troops. Ammunition the unit used could also have been British.

In a written reply to a parliamentary question from the Labour MP Jeremy Corbyn, Nicholas Soames, junior defence minister, confirmed that "a UK training team based in Puerto Rico trained a Guatemalan contingent preparing to take part in the multi-national force in Haiti".

The Guatemalan force in Haiti was drawn from the Kaibiles, a force known for its gross and persistent violations of human rights in the 40-year Guatemalan civil war, which has claimed 150,000 victims. Given their reputation, the use of the Kaibiles in Haiti last year was received privately with disgust by United Nations staff in Port-au-Prince.

News of British involvement with the Kaibiles also undermines the argument offered to

British critics of military involvement with Guatemala by the Foreign Office in the sense that exposure to the best British military practice would improve the human-rights record of Guatemala's army.

The 26-man platoon that killed the refugees - Mayan Indians celebrating the first anniversary of their return from asylum in Mexico - at Xaman, in Alta Verapaz department, was also drawn from the Kaibiles, and was commanded by Second Lieutenant Camilo Antonio Lacan. The men of the platoon have been charged with murder.

Boutros Boutros-Ghali, the UN Secretary-General, urged an investigation and punishment of the guilty, sentiments echoed by the European Union. The Guatemalan Defence Minister, Mario Enriquez, resigned and the local commander was replaced.

Yesterday the Department of Trade and Industry disclosed that Britain had resumed arms exports to Guatemala, suspended in the 1970s, when neighbouring Belize was a British colony claimed by Guatemala.

IF YOUR COMPANY BECAME AN INVESTOR IN PEOPLE, YOU'D BE MORE LIKELY TO GET AHEAD.

How can you get on if your company hasn't the faintest idea where it's going? How far can you go if you're just going round in circles?

To move forward, you need to be in a company with clear objectives and a sense of direction.

A company with aims you can work towards.

You need to be in a company that values your efforts, with appraisals to help you develop. A company that trains you properly, not just for the tasks you're doing but for the tasks you want to do next.

You need to be in an environment where you

feel you can make a contribution. Where ideas and suggestions are encouraged, not sat on.

If you already work for this sort of company, you'll know what we mean. Maybe it's already achieved the 'Investors in People' Standard. If not, you should

ring 0345 70 71 72 (9am to 9pm weekdays, local rate) for an information pack. It won't guarantee you'll get to the top, but it should point you in the right direction.

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

Six of the best: Halloween events

Chessington World of Adventures Chessington, Surrey (01372 727227)
Chessington challenges you to join its end-of-season "Fright Night" spectacular, where spine-tingling rides in the dark will be made more ghoul-ish by the addition of laser lights. Entertainers range from ghosts and witches to vampires and musicians.
Today and Sun 9.30am-9.30pm (rides queue closes at 9pm). Adults £15, children £11.75; evening only (gates from 5pm-7pm) adults £8.50, children £6.50

Mermaid Hotel Mermaid Street, Rye (01797 223065) The Mermaid Inn, one of the oldest in England, boasts enough spooks to make the perfect ghoulish weekend break. Try asking for one of the six rooms which have specific ghosts attached. Go where the chambermaids fear to tread; they will only clean room 17 in pairs as the rocking chair has been seen to rock for no apparent reason accompanied by a drop in temperature. Or for a bit of action try room 16, where a swash-buckling ghostly duel is reputed to have taken place. **Rooms from £50**

Tower Hill Pageant 1 Tower Hill Terrace, London EC3 (0171-709 0081)
Halloween attractions include pumpkin-making workshops for children, supervised by witches and wizards (7 to 13 years) and pumpkin trail treasure hunts. *Today and Sun 9.30am-5.30pm. Adults £5.95, children £3.95. Family ticket (2 adults, 2 children) £14.95 (additional cost of £1 for pumpkin workshops)*

Ghosts of the Old City (0171-624 3978) The circular walk organised by London Walks takes you through the old City of London. Visit a churchyard where the "she wolf" of France glides, go to the spot where the dark figure of Newgate rattles his chains and hear about the black nun. *Today and Sun meet 7.30pm St Pauls tube station at street level.*
Adult £4, concs £3, children u15 go free. Walk lasts about 2 hours

Westwood Woodland Park Ghost Walk Weston Shore car park, Southampton (01703 456484) Aimed at families with children under 12. Face painting, storytelling and a procession back through the woods in the dark. Meet today 4.30pm. Free (donations welcome)

Downhill all the way

As the rest of England bathes in the sunshine of another Indian Summer, the snow will be falling heavily, in spirit at least, on the foothills of Olympia as the 1995 Daily Mail International Ski Show waxes the edges and tightens the bindings of the coming ski season. As resorts go, Olympia is fairly limited, with just one artificial slope, but the off-piste couldn't be better, with an unrivalled range of ski and snowboarding products. And, of course, there will be the usual glossy brochure haul from the holiday companies, with special emphasis this year on the US. Highlights include the Drumbie stand, which offers a free dram and a go on the downhill ski-racing simulator. Back on piste, aerialists, alpine skiers and ballet skiers will "Ski the Airwaves" and top technical skiers will pit their wits in the Artificial World Championships for synchronised skiing. *Olympia, Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W14 0171-373 8141). Today to 5 Nov*



Things to do, places to go

Childish behaviour

Although inspired by children's TV, with *Blue Peter*, *Live & Kicking* and other kids' programmes very much in evidence, the Big Bash is much more than a BBC fest. The exhibition comprises six themed "worlds" which offer children hands-on experience of new products. Be warned, "fun world", will have your offspring writing lengthy Christmas lists. Over in "sports world", work off the excitement with rowing, volleyball and archery. If you have a potential supermodel in the family then head for "style world" where Debenhams is looking for model kids. Alternatively, step boldly into "future world". Back to earth with a bump in the "real world" where advice about careers and money is the order of the day. In "entertainment world" children can audition to be a TV presenter. The highlight of the Big Bash promises to be CBBC's live show hosted by Peter Simon. There are four live broadcasts today and you can catch PJ & Duncan, Michaela Strachan and Zoë Ball among others. *Birmingham NEC (0121-780 4133) today & Sun*

film
WEST EN

[illegible]

THE LITTLE MATCHBOX THEATRE The Lancelotti Cawboys and The Alexandria Road Army will be at the west bank in the world, ICAH 1001 155 (Sat).

• **ROCKE** See 11.00, 12.00, 13.00, 14.00, 15.00, 16.00, 17.00, 18.00, 19.00, 20.00, 21.00, 22.00, 23.00, 24.00, 25.00, 26.00, 27.00, 28.00, 29.00, 30.00, 31.00, 32.00, 33.00, 34.00, 35.00, 36.00, 37.00, 38.00, 39.00, 40.00, 41.00, 42.00, 43.00, 44.00, 45.00, 46.00, 47.00, 48.00, 49.00, 50.00, 51.00, 52.00, 53.00, 54.00, 55.00, 56.00, 57.00, 58.00, 59.00, 60.00, 61.00, 62.00, 63.00, 64.00, 65.00, 66.00, 67.00, 68.00, 69.00, 70.00, 71.00, 72.00, 73.00, 74.00, 75.00, 76.00, 77.00, 78.00, 79.00, 80.00, 81.00, 82.00, 83.00, 84.00, 85.00, 86.00, 87.00, 88.00, 89.00, 90.00, 91.00, 92.00, 93.00, 94.00, 95.00, 96.00, 97.00, 98.00, 99.00, 100.00, 101.00, 102.00, 103.00, 104.00, 105.00, 106.00, 107.00, 108.00, 109.00, 110.00, 111.00, 112.00, 113.00, 114.00, 115.00, 116.00, 117.00, 118.00, 119.00, 120.00, 121.00, 122.00, 123.00, 124.00, 125.00, 126.00, 127.00, 128.00, 129.00, 130.00, 131.00, 132.00, 133.00, 134.00, 135.00, 136.00, 137.00, 138.00, 139.00, 140.00, 141.00, 142.00, 143.00, 144.00, 145.00, 146.00, 147.00, 148.00, 149.00, 150.00, 151.00, 152.00, 153.00, 154.00, 155.00, 156.00, 157.00, 158.00, 159.00, 160.00, 161.00, 162.00, 163.00, 164.00, 165.00, 166.00, 167.00, 168.00, 169.00, 170.00, 171.00, 172.00, 173.00, 174.00, 175.00, 176.00, 177.00, 178.00, 179.00, 180.00, 181.00, 182.00, 183.00, 184.00, 185.00, 186.00, 187.00, 188.00, 189.00, 190.00, 191.00, 192.00, 193.00, 194.00, 195.00, 196.00, 197.00, 198.00, 199.00, 200.00, 201.00, 202.00, 203.00, 204.00, 205.00, 206.00, 207.00, 208.00, 209.00, 210.00, 211.00, 212.00, 213.00, 214.00, 215.00, 216.00, 217.00, 218.00, 219.00, 220.00, 221.00, 222.00, 223.00, 224.00, 225.00, 226.00, 227.00, 228.00, 229.00, 230.00, 231.00, 232.00, 233.00, 234.00, 235.00, 236.00, 237.00, 238.00, 239.00, 240.00, 241.00, 242.00, 243.00, 244.00, 245.00, 246.00, 247.00, 248.00, 249.00, 250.00, 251.00, 252.00, 253.00, 254.00, 255.00, 256.00, 257.00, 258.00, 259.00, 260.00, 261.00, 262.00, 263.00, 264.00, 265.00, 266.00, 267.00, 268.00, 269.00, 270.00, 271.00, 272.00, 273.00, 274.00, 275.00, 276.00, 277.00, 278.00, 279.00, 280.00, 281.00, 282.00, 283.00, 284.00, 285.00, 286.00, 287.00, 288.00, 289.00, 290.00, 291.00, 292.00, 293.00, 294.00, 295.00, 296.00, 297.00, 298.00, 299.00, 300.00, 301.00, 302.00, 303.00, 304.00, 305.00, 306.00, 307.00, 308.00, 309.00, 310.00, 311.00, 312.00, 313.00, 314.00, 315.00, 316.00, 317.00, 318.00, 319.00, 320.00, 321.00, 322.00, 323.00, 324.00, 325.00, 326.00, 327.00, 328.00, 329.00, 330.00, 331.00, 332.00, 333.00, 334.00, 335.00, 336.00, 337.00, 338.00, 339.00, 340.00, 341.00, 342.00, 343.00, 344.00, 345.00, 346.00, 347.00, 348.00, 349.00, 350.00, 351.00, 352.00, 353.00, 354.00, 355.00, 356.00, 357.00, 358.00, 359.00, 360.00, 361.00, 362.00, 363.00, 364.00, 365.00, 366.00, 367.00, 368.00, 369.00, 370.00, 371.00, 372.00, 373.00, 374.00, 375.00, 376.00, 377.00, 378.00, 379.00, 380.00, 381.00, 382.00, 383.00, 384.00, 385.00, 386.00, 387.00, 388.00, 389.00, 390.00, 391.00, 392.00, 393.00, 394.00, 395.00, 396.00, 397.00, 398.00, 399.00, 400.00, 401.00, 402.00, 403.00, 404.00, 405.00, 406.00, 407.00, 408.00, 409.00, 410.00, 411.00, 412.00, 413.00, 414.00, 415.00, 416.00, 417.00, 418.00, 419.00, 420.00, 421.00, 422.00, 423.00, 424.00, 425.00, 426.00, 427.00, 428.00, 429.00, 430.00, 431.00, 432.00, 433.00, 434.00, 435.00, 436.00, 437.00, 438.00, 439.00, 440.00, 441.00, 442.00, 443.00, 444.00, 445.00, 446.00, 447.00, 448.00, 449.00, 450.00, 451.00, 452.00, 453.00, 454.00, 455.00, 456.00, 457.00, 458.00, 459.00, 460.00, 461.00, 462.00, 463.00, 464.00, 465.00, 466.00, 467.00, 468.00, 469.00, 470.00, 471.00, 472.00, 473.00, 474.00, 475.00, 476.00, 477.00, 478.00, 479.00, 480.00, 481.00, 482.00, 483.00, 484.00, 485.00, 486.00, 487.00, 488.00, 489.00, 490.00, 491.00, 492.00, 493.00, 494.00, 495.00, 496.00, 497.00, 498.00, 499.00, 500.00, 501.00, 502.00, 503.00, 504.00, 505.00, 506.00, 507.00, 508.00, 509.00, 510.00, 511.00, 512.00, 513.00, 514.00, 515.00, 516.00, 517.00, 518.00, 519.00, 520.00, 521.00, 522.00, 523.00, 524.00, 525.

CINEMA

RYAN GILBEY

To Die For Suzanne Stone (Nicole Kidman) is a weather-girl with delusions of grandeur which drive her to kill. She wants three losers to do the dirty work for her on the husband who, she believes, is out to smother her ambition. Gus Van Sant directs an entertaining satire.

FAME THE MUSICAL
Stage musical by David de Silva.
Cambridge Evening News, WC2 (0)71-494
3,000; @ Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30, [4]7
3.00, £10-£25

FIVE DAYS FIVE NIGHTS
Lively satirical celebration of Louis Jordan.
Aldrey St Martin's Lane (649 1730) @ Leeds St,
Mon-Thurs 8.00, Fri & Sat 6.00 & 8.45, £5-£28.

FRIDAY NIGHTS
Sybil Syrus and Henry McGee star.
Plymouth Northernhall Cinema, WC2
(0)71-439 4801 @ Entertainment. Mon-Sat
8.00, [5] 3.00, [7] 5.00, £5-£20.

THE GLASS MENAGERIE
Tennessee Williams' tragic drama.
Dorothy Warriner Cinema, WC2
(0)71-439 4801 @ Leeds St, The Sat 8.00,
[1] [5] 7.40, 4.00, one Nov, £12-£19.

GERSWINE
Stage version of the hit film.
Dorchester Theatre Royal, W1 (0)77-
416 6000; @ Tuf Ct Rd, Mon-Sat 7.30, [4] 7-
3.00, £10-£27.50.

HUNTERS OF CHANCE
Leo McKern in Harold Pinter's comedy.
The Shakespeare Centre, (494 5045) @ Pic Cin.
Mon-Sat 7.30, [7] 3.00, one Sat, £6-£24.

THE HITCHHIKER
Harold Pinter stars with Celia Lennie.
London Pavilion, SW1 (0)77-349 1731
@ Pic Circle Rd St, Mon-Sat 7.45, [5] 3.00, [7]
4.00, one Sat 8.00, £10-£22.50.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING ERNEST
Terry Hands' 100th anniversary production.
Old Vic Warehouse Road, SE1 (0)77-028 7060
@ RSC, Waterloo. Mon-Sat 7.30, [4] 7.3.00,
one 18 Nov, £5-£22.

KNOW ME
Tom Stoppard's latest, with Niamh Cusack.
Aldwych Theatre, WC2 (0)77-416 8033; @
Hibernia. Mon-Sat 7.30, [4] 7.3.00, £10-£25.

AN INSPECTOR CALLS
Acclaimed production of JB Priestley's thriller.
Garrick Clarendon Road, WC2 (0)77-494

SAT	3.00
SUN	2.30
BRIE	1.00
LIS	1.50
PAI	1.00
MUS	1.00
REV	1.00
FOR	1.00
PICT	1.00
FIRO	1.00
BASE	1.00
FOR	1.00
SAN	1.00
PET	1.00
NOV	1.00
MUS	1.00
MOS	1.00
LOU	1.00
MO	1.00
AGE	1.00
SL	1.00
CR	1.00
AL	1.00
LOW	1.00
CL	1.00
NIC	1.00

ART
IAIN GAIL

Art and Power Beautifully designed and carefully curated exhibition, which lays bare the cultural impudence of the Totalitarian nations - Germany, Italy, Russia and Spain, during the seminal years 1930 to 1945.

Hayward Gallery, London to 21 Jan

© Lele Soc; Mon-Fri 7.45, Sat 8.15, [4] 7.50-9.00, ends 6 Jan, £9-24.50.

A Crayley as the 20th centurist.
The Palace Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 0000); Victoria Mews-Sat 7.30 (16 Oct)
Mon-Fri 3.00, £12.50-£30.

RESERVES
End of Victor Hugo's masterpiece,
The Shambles Ave (0171-434 0909) © Pic
Mon-Sat 7.30, [F] 7.20-8.40, £7-£30.

OVER THE LAST MISTRESS LOVE LIFE
And the witty Forties musical,
Goodbye Joe! Barbican Centre, EC2
(438 8891) © Barbican/Moorgate,
Fri 4.15, £1, ends 26.50.

A MANAGER
An account of Michael Scott's office,
Daily Express St (0171-369 1734) © Pic
Mon-Sat 7.30, [F] 7.00-9.00, £7.50-£32.50.

on the life of performer Marie Lloyd.
See Russell St (0171-438 2235) © Ashborn,
Sat 3.00, ends 3 Dec, £7.50-£17.50.

MISTER DODGE
He Had droids Alone, Bates in the show.
Royal Haymarket, SW1 (0171-430 0000)
(0171-494 8000) © Crown/Globe,
Mon-Fri 7.45, [4] 7.30, [F] 3.00, [S]
6 Jan, £10-£26.

SARON
An Butterfly rise in Vietnam.
Rex Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street,
Wm V West Street (0171-336 1443) © Lele
ton St St 8.00, [F] 7.45, [F] 5.00, R-£22.

THEATRICAL THEATRE
The Night White Sea Mania's production.
2.00 & 7.15

Day of The World Flights Lloyd's produc-
tion 2.15 & 7.30

La Strada Night Sea Cruise
Nov. 7.30, ends 1 Nov, £10.
Comedian
The Marlow Theatre Park
Today 3.30 & 7.30
Owl: 11.0-12.00, £3
Critic: 11.0-12.00, £3
South Bank, SE1 (0171-734 7000)

NIGHT, SENSATIONAL COMEDY
The Bandone
Harry V Matthews Ward
2.00 & 7.15
The Pic
The Park Bocho Street
Today 2.00 & 7.15
Barbican Theatre, EC2
Barbican Centre, EC2

OLIVER!
Jim Dale solo on Fugue
Dale's Solo (0171-438 2235)
Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30, [4] 7.00


THE PRINCE OF THE PEASANT
Andrew Lloyd Webber
For Halsey/Halsey
Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30, [4] 7.00

PROMISED CHILDREN
Musical parody of the
Queen's Shakespearean
2007 © Pic Circ. Mon
6.00 & 8.00, ends 13 Jan

ROYAL THEATRE
Revival of Ron Haudie
Dale of Fugue St Harriet
336 512/528 R36 4037
7.30, [F] 7.30, ends 13 Jan

THE ROYAL ORCHESTRA
Musical biography.
Whitaker's Whitaker's St
© RBC: Charing Xc
The 5.30 & 8.00, £14.00, ex

SOULMATE PRODUCTIONS
Lloyd Webber's high-
school classic
(0171-438 2235)
3.00, £12.50-£30.



THEATRE
DAVID BENEDICT

La Mancha Richard Eyre displays considerable flair with this magical and dazzlingly designed production of Eduardo de Filippo's fascinating and thoroughly unfashionable tale of a man's love for his wife. Starring Bernard Cribbins.
Lytellon, National Theatre, To 15 Nov

SHERLOCK HOLMES
Lloyd Webber's musical.
Adelphi Theatre, Mon-Sat 7.30, 9.30
or Charing X. Wed-Sat 7.45, [W7] 3.00, 11.15-12.50.

TAMARA CRANE
A conductor is torred by Nazism.
Orchestra Popsdody Circus, Wt [W7] 7.30-11.30; Fric Carus-Mon-Sat 7.30, [W7] 2.50, 11.15-12.50.

THREE TALL MEN
Edward Albee's acclaimed drama.
Westbury's Cheating Crown Road, WC2 [W7]-30 1730e; 897 [111] @ Laic Sat, Tues-R. [W7] 3.00, ends to Dec. 15, 1971.

TOMMY STEELE - WHAT A SHOW!
Musical comedy starring with a 12-strong company.
Prince of Wales Corporation Street, W1 [W7]-839 5972 @ Laic Sat/Fri. Mon-Sat R. [W7] 4.00, [F10, R] 4.00, ends to Jan. 12, 1972.

THE WOMAN IN BLACK
Susan Hill's chilling ghost story.
Famous Russell St [W7] 1-36 2238 @ Holborn. Mon-Sat R. [W7], [F10] 7.00, 11.15-12.50.

Beyond The West End
ALMAIRA THEATRE
Vanessa Redgrave's Thomas Gwynn's 17c tragedy stars Alphonso E. Edmunds. Mon-Sat 8pm, Sat 2pm, and 2.20e. It. 50-216-50, corps available. Almeida St [W7]-399 4404 @ Angel.

PURE THEATRE
Sam Flinn Spens Wallace's brutal drama set during the Crusades. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 18 Nov. £2.50, corps 6p. Shepherd's Bush Green [W7]-143 3585 @ Shepherds Bush.

GATE THEATRE
Shane Fann Dutch Farm director Valle Inden's searching Spanish drama. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 23 Nov. £1.00, corps 16p. Peckham Road. W11 [W7]-129 0708 @ Notting Hill Gate.

THEATRE UPSTAIRS, DOWN TOWN
Pete Hurst Joe Penhall's second play, directed by Ian Richardson. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, corps 2.50, ends 4 Nov. Mon & Sat sat 11.55, then 2.30, corps available. Sloane Square, SW1 [W7]-730 1745 @ Sloane Square.

هكذا من الاحل

the saturday story

The grey men of English football have the best seats in the house for the debate on a new national stadium, says **Peter Popham**

Five cities set up for a battle royal

In an ugly new Holiday Inn hotel, on the site of an old doss house and five minutes' walk from King's Cross Station, 11 men of sport are trying this weekend to make up their minds where England's new national stadium should be. It will be financed by up to £150m of National Lottery funds augmented by private money. The sites on offer are Bradford, Sheffield, Manchester, Birmingham and Wembley.

Nearly four months have passed since the deadline for applications. In that time, Rodney Walker, chairman of the Sports Council, and his 10 colleagues have scrutinised the five bids, visited sites, bent ears to the lobbyists, received petitions, taken the murmured hints of politicians and considered claims of past, present and future. Over the past few days, they have been convening in

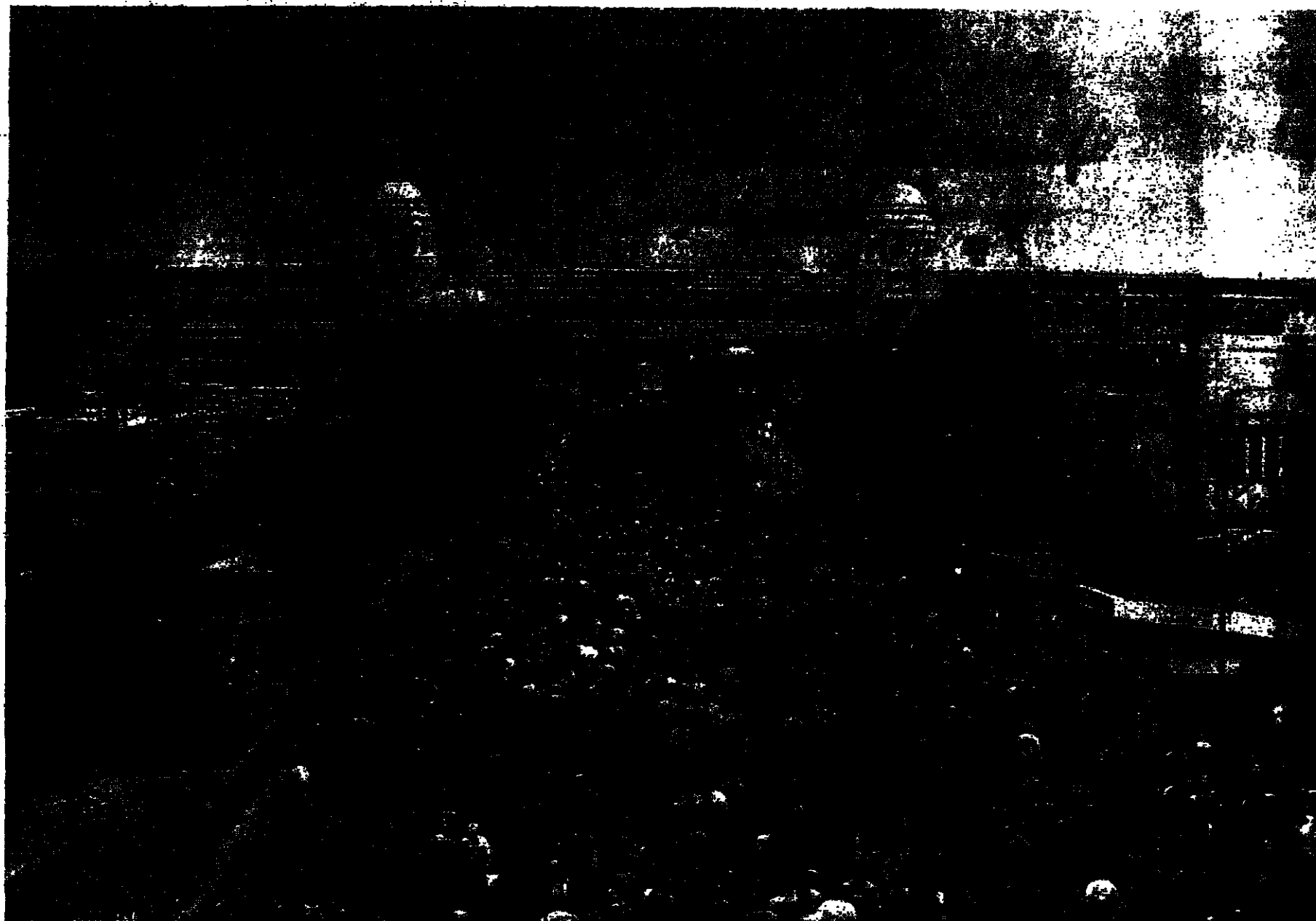
Seven members of the steering group are from football; the hegemony of the national game is almost total

the King's Cross Holiday Inn's Bloomsbury Suite to conduct final interviews.

Through the swing doors, down the stairs and over the vaguely heraldic carpet, you are enveloped in a stench of chlorine: the suite is adjacent to the swimming pool. In the conference room itself, low-ceilinged, subtly lit, with powder blue-draped tables, plastic name cards and chunky microphones, the five delegations undergo a final grilling.

Members of the national stadium steering group ranged against them are overwhelmingly from football; the hegemony of the national game is almost total. They include Sir Bert Millichip, the infinitely grey bureaucrat who chairs the Football Association; Graham Kelly, the FA's chief executive, frequently called by sports journalists the most reviled man in football, whose pale, scowling face on the box is the inevitable harbinger of bad news; and Rick Parry, chief executive of the Premier League, the mild accountant from Manchester who competes with these two in negative charisma. On the 11, seven are from the FA, the Premier League or the Football League; athletics and Rugby League have just one representative each.

The Sports Council's press release on the stadium announcement has much to say about sport in general. "As most sports fans would surely agree," it begins, "to remain a world player in competitive sport, England needs a National Stadium, which not only has the seating capacity for national spectator sports events but will also be of a standard to attract major European and World sporting events." But the preponderance of football men on the



High hopes: Wembley's twin towers would be the only feature of the original to remain if its national stadium bid succeeds

Photograph: Allsport

steering group suggests that in each case, the word "sport" should be replaced by "football" - and that's how four of the five bidders have responded.

The exception is Bradford. If the world were a just place, there is no doubt that the new national stadium would be built in Bradford, for not only does the Yorkshire city deserve a break, but its proposal demonstrates a far broader and more enlightened understanding of the meaning of "stadium" than the others.

The besighted hosts of redoubtable, dauntingly rough pubs, cheap Asian restaurants and a fabulous Victorian municipal art museum, Bradford has had a tougher job than most northern cities of reinventing itself. The last time it hit the headlines (June) was thanks to a race riot. But Bradford's National Superdome project is the only really bold and original submission the Sports Council has received.

On the site of the Rugby League ground at Odal, near the city cen-

tre, it envisages Britain's first, and only the world's fourth, "skydome", its retractable roof making it convertible from an outdoor to an indoor venue within six minutes. It would thus be a national stadium in the broadest sense, hosting rugby, football, rock music, classical music and exhibitions with equal ease. It would be the jewel in a crown of new things - a theme park with rollercoaster, multiple cinema, fast shopping area, even a real church for holding real weddings.

It would, thanks to local investment already obtained, be the cheapest option, costing the Lottery only £40m, but it would also be the most ambitious. Petitions in its favour carry 100,000 signatures. If Bradford has its way, it will be free of its image problem with one leap.

Yet Bradford's chances are slim. Despite its claim to be "the ideal location", Bradford is probably too remote, peripheral and small to stand a chance. And it doesn't care enough about football.

Sheffield's bid is more plausible

because the city has been in the re-invention game for longer, and with impressive results. It also boasts the two oldest football clubs in the country. Controversy surrounded the city's decision to build a new stadium when it hosted the World Student Games, but although that imposed a huge fiscal burden on the citizens, it endowed the city with splendid facilities: the Don Valley stadium and Ponds Forge swimming complex are heavily used. Sheffield has been careful to add to this good hand - it was recently dubbed by the Sports Council the first "national city of sport", and the city's two universities aim to create an "Institute of Sport" in the city "to develop local talent and improve competitiveness".

But Sheffield's bid was thrown into confusion at the beginning of October when the Sports Council wrote to tell them that their proposal, which envisaged raising the capacity of Don Valley to 50,000, was likely to fail because the projected national stadium needed to accommodate

80,000. Amid scenes of hysteria and manic overworking, the proposal was torn up and done again to incorporate a brand new 80,000-seat football stadium alongside the existing ground, which would be re-christened the National Athletic Stadium.

This second submission carries a strong whiff of desperation, and Sheffield's chances must consequently be poor, particularly because the Government has yet to forgive the city for the defiant way it went about its stadium-building binge four years ago. But Sheffield's new twin-stadium concept brings into focus one of the chief problems with which the Sports Council must wrestle.

A national stadium must serve not only football and Rugby League but athletics as well. However, a football crowd hates watching the game from the wrong side of a running track, while small athletics crowds are swallowed up in the immensity of football stadiums. The preponderance of football people in the group deciding on the new stadium means

optimum conditions for playing and watching football are the first priority. But athletics cannot entirely be ignored.

Bids by Manchester, Birmingham and Wembley attempt to tackle this dilemma. For Manchester and Birmingham, the answer is banks of retractable seating. Thrust forward during athletics meets to expose the running track, Wembley's proposal does the same, but with the added and unique feature that the entire pitch, supported on hydraulic jacks, would drop 13 feet for football games, thereby, they claim, giving perfect sightlines.

The battle royal, it is generally agreed, is between these three bids. Each has an ace of its own. Manchester is already committed to holding the Commonwealth Games in 2002; the Sports Council supported the city's bid to hold them, and is committed to helping it provide a stadium for the purpose. Yet the city's rarely used velodrome is an embarrassing reminder of how

big a white elephant a stadium in the wrong place can be. To fail twice to get the Olympics may be once too often, and Manchester United, ensconced in its splendid new stadium at Old Trafford, does not give a fig for the national stadium project.

Birmingham's main drawbacks are that it is not Wembley, and it is not in the North. These may be enough to doom it, which would be unjust because its location next to the National Exhibition Centre, infrastructural links and proximity to London make it the most rational (if not exactly the most inspiring) of the submissions.

This leaves Wembley. It has been the symbol of British football since 1923, when 200,000 crammed in to see the FA Cup Final, and it is the only ground in the country which has

What is being sought is a football stadium to accommodate athletics at a pinch

name recognition throughout the world. But it is also the Wembley of terrible toilets, bad food and non-existent leg room.

Wembley's bid has been drawn up with a great deal of guile. Wembley plc has a poor business record, but in the plan submitted to the Sports Council, its role would be reduced to operations, while the ground would be owned by a trust representing the nation. The present stadium is generally agreed to be desperately inadequate and out of date: the whole thing (except the twin towers) would be torn down and rebuilt, complete with jacked-up turf. The industrial surroundings of the ground are deeply dreary: Brent Regeneration, the council agency responsible for the plan, envisages "rationalising the area around the stadium", which probably means shifting nearby factories and warehouses to new sites.

On grounds of history, cunning presentation and the resented but irresistible claims of the capital, Wembley looks the best bet. The reality of the present competition is that what is being sought is not a national stadium in the broad, visionary sense envisaged by Bradford, but a national football stadium that can accommodate athletics at a pinch when not otherwise in use. That is precisely what Wembley offers.

Whether football, up to its neck equally in scandal and television money, actually deserves such largesse from the long-suffering community of lottery ticket buyers is a question that deserves to be vigorously posed. For football, the gift of a new national stadium is like lifting a thick seam of gold shortly after discovering oil. What has it done to deserve such good fortune?

Jo Brand's week

Given that women are moving into areas of work traditionally dominated by men, I suppose it is inevitable that men are going to feel the need to occupy erstwhile exclusively female positions. Thus, we are informed that the first 'Avon Man' has sprung, ready for action, on to the scene. "Ding-dong, Avon calling," they now be uttered in the gruff tones of the male gender. I wonder, do we really need any more ways for men to gain access to our abodes? It's bad enough covering behind the chain as the gas, electricity and water men flash their IDs. What will the Avon man show? A fifty swish with the blusher brush. A quick flourish of the lippy. Calm down, Avon people, I'm not implying that your staff are any less than spotless, but we all know about these geezers who pass themselves off as salesmen to rob some poor old lady blind. So if some Desperate Dan look-alike turns up on your doorstep offering you a squirt of Summer Meadow, I'd think twice before you let him in.

This doctor who looks after students says that some of them are now so poor, they smell of poverty. He reckons you can sniff out a student at 25 yards. What is this smell of poverty, I wonder? Apparently, it's "damp and a slight degree of being unwashed", according to Paul Costello. Many of the 7,500 students at the University of East Anglia are turning up to the surgery with poverty-related problems caused by inadequate student grants. I can just hear my grandma saying, "It didn't matter how poor we were, we always kept ourselves presentable." I do think, though, that when you are a student, hygiene is probably the first to go, and beer and kebabs the last. Let's hope the trend continues after the students leave college and flow into jobs in the City. No one need ever ask directions again, they can just follow the smell of damp.

Funny how Margaret Thatcher's birthday party was a starring success in the *Daily Mail* and a bit of a flop in the *Guardian*. Newt Gingrich only made it for pudding and many expected



Ding-dong, Avon calling

world-leader types failed to show. At £1,000 a plate, you can hardly blame them. What a wotful idea, charging people to come to your party. I was disappointed to hear Joan Rivers was there. I had assumed someone with as sharp a wit as hers might have seen through the old trout some time ago.



Joan Rivers: going with the flow



This American seems to be confused about what they want. Many of them, apparently, are opting for something called VS, or voluntary simplicity. They are scaling their complicated, money-loaded lives down to the minimum and choosing simpler lives. (To match their taste in films and television, one assumes.) Thousands are flocking to classes to be taught how to be simple, doubted by teachers who themselves are making a packet out of it and complicating their own lives no end. So far, it seems that VS is not a resounding success in areas like south-central LA, whose inhabitants have been forced into a life of involuntary simplicity by those Americans who are following the original American Dream to grab what they can get and bugger the rest.

Or perhaps some Americans have just taken *Forrest Gump* a bit too seriously. I knew that film was a waste of time when they kept endlessly quoting the phrase: "Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get." Don't they have those little guides with pictures of the chocolates on them over there, then?

I started a 35-date tour last week and have so far taken in an interesting section of places, including Guernsey, Ipswich and Guildford. It is interesting to see which audiences have a sense of humour about themselves. I normally announce Richard, the other comic, by saying that we asked our tour

promoter to book us into some real dumps at the beginning of the tour so it doesn't matter if our new material goes down the toilet. Sadly, I think Ipswich thought we meant it. Sorry Ipswich, I was only mucking about.

In Guernsey, at the airport, I found myself falling for a very old trick. A bloke came up to me and said, "I manage a local football team and one of our players is a big fan, will you come and have your picture taken with him?" I walked over to where the team was standing and some poor, obviously reluctant footballer was shoved forward, as the manager explained, "He hasn't scored this season," to the accompaniment of the rest of the lads laughing. I realised at this point that my photo wasn't required for any striking resemblance to numerous page three girls, but so they could tease him relentlessly about it. Still, at least he was a lot more embarrassed than I was.

The things that embarrass us are strange. Most of us can't bear to be singled out from the crowd for fear of looking foolish. (Unfortunately, as a woman, if you weigh more than nine stone you can't avoid it.) But to be singled out from a crowd of 36,000 must have been excruciating for a man watching Newcastle United. His wife had lost her car keys and asked for an announcement to be made. The man had to make his way through the crowd, having been spotted and jeered at. It reminded me of an incident when I was drinking in a pub with friends and a group of blokes nearby were suddenly disturbed as a woman marched up to them with a plate containing a dinner, plunked it down, and said to one of them, "If you won't come home for dinner, you can bloody well have it here." This man wasn't easily embarrassed, though: he tucked in, while his friends looked on enviously. No doubt Mr Sensitive tried to book a meal in the pub for the next night as well.

CALL THE LAND OF THE FREE FOR NEXT TO NOTHING.



10p per min (BT 32.2p; Mercury 28.9p)

	10p	29p	66p
USA			
India	68p	96p	29p
South Africa	40p	62p	35p
Hong Kong	35p	56p	38p
Japan	40p	75p	46p
Australia	25p	45p	44p
Brazil	64p	85p	25p
Canada	17p	29p	41p
Germany/France	18p	22p	18p

* Savings to 100's of countries

* Business and residential customers welcome

* For full details phone the number below

* Operators available 24hrs a day, 7 days a week.



Stately Speaking - a service provided by First Telecom plc (unlisted)

FREEPHONE
0500 66 66 00

BEFORE YOU PHONE THE WORLD, PHONE US.

Please remember to pay per minute. Mercury prices shown in last column. Mercury will only charge for calls made to the UK. Other charges may apply. All charges are in pence. All charges are in pence. All charges are in pence.



Hong Kong is no Damascus

Chris Patten is one of Britain's most thoughtful politicians. His defeat at the last election was a blow to the quality of political debate, above all in the Conservative Party. But one of the disappointments of his period as Governor of Hong Kong is that hitherto he has seen his role as conveying the virtues of Europe to Asia. He has had little to say about what Europe might learn from Asia. His lecture in London earlier this week sought to repair that deficit. And the single most arresting proposition in his talk was the statement that a drastic reduction in public spending as a proportion of GDP is an essential condition for rapid economic growth.

There is little doubt that Western political debate over the next few years will increasingly be consumed by the challenge of the east Asian economies and what might be learnt from them. The argument has already surfaced in the proposition that Britain should aim to become the Hong Kong of Europe. There is a danger though that the sheer diversity of the Asian experience is buried in the search for a model that confirms one's own political prejudices. Singapore, a rather different model, has enjoyed a rather better growth rate recently than Hong Kong, and China, for that matter, has topped the lot.

Learning from Asia, in other words, is not a simple business and is unlikely to affirm in any straightforward way domestic political positions. There are other reasons to be cautious. It is certainly true that government spending as a proportion of GDP is much lower than the European average. But is this the main reason for the



high growth rates? The principal source of growth – provided that government doesn't interfere – is, ironically, backwardness. This has been the case ever since Britain pioneered the first take-off into sustained economic growth two centuries ago. Those who are behind in the economic race can borrow technology and exploit lower wages to catch up.

The potential for economic growth that comes from shifting low productivity agricultural workers into high productivity industrial production is one that has been demonstrated by one country after another. The 100 million or so Chinese who are estimated to be moving off the fields into factories are doing no more than follow in the tracks of European peasants whose shift off the land helped to propel the postwar economic miracles.

The revolution – and for once the word is warranted – in the international economy has speeded up this process. In today's ever more integrated capital markets and business environment, technology and financial resources can be shifted around the world ever more quickly. Japanese-style rates of growth of around 10 per cent that once seemed abnormal have become common. In the past three years, China has grown at the extraordinary annual rate of 13 per cent.

There is nothing, then, that is intrinsically surprising in the fact that many east Asian economies have been sprinting ahead while those in Europe have been apparently limping along. Just as population growth rates tend to level out through the development process, so too with economic growth rates. Japan in the

1990s is a country mired in debt, deflation and depression – hardly the lodestar for a continuing economic miracle.

It would also not be unreasonable to suggest that as these countries acquire more prosperous and sophisticated economies, their propensity for public spending will steadily rise. After all, this is exactly what has happened in Europe over the past century.

All of this is true. But we should also beware of simplistic economic and cultural determinism: the Western model is the most advanced example available and therefore all other economies will converge with it as they reach similar levels of development. That is a strong tendency, but we should not be so culturally arrogant as to suggest that there will be no differences and that there will be no reverse traffic. In some respects Japan has converged with the West, in other senses it has remained very distinct. Japan has borrowed much from the West, but we have also started to imitate Japan.

In a world of growing globalisation and ever fiercer competition, there will surely be increasing pressure on Western economies to reduce the burdens of state expenditure. But even if this were desirable, how is it to be achieved? The Conservatives have been in office for 16 years and have, despite much huffing and puffing, miserably failed to shift the proportion of GDP spent by the Government. It has remained stubbornly above 40 per cent. The truth is that to affect any major change will require fundamental shifts in the relationship between the individual and the state, and, in particular, a drastic change in how we finance ben-

efits, education and health. There are simple solutions. Even a government as radical and ruthless as Mrs Thatcher's did not feel confident or strong enough to achieve that. It is difficult to imagine any government in Britain doing such in the course of the next decade.

There is certainly an argument to be had about whether the citizens of rich countries need a cradle-to-grave welfare state. That argument is a difficult one. Liberal instincts point in one direction: individual responsibility is something that should be fostered. Socialist instincts point in another: if the better off opt out of health and education, what will be left will be a rump that will lack the political lobbying pressure of the middle classes. As George Walden has often observed, who can doubt that educational standards in the majority of schools would be greatly improved if there were not a system of apartheid between the private and the public sectors.

The problem with the new Conservative drive to bring down public spending is that the objective is not being honestly stated and argued. After 16 years of power, the party can scarcely claim that it has not had an opportunity to shrink public spending as a share of national wealth. The fact is they have consistently shied away from making the harsh decisions – such as shifting the NHS into the private sector – that would achieve this goal. The ratio of public spending to GDP is where it is because there is no public appetite for the wider shores of economic liberalism. That is why the dream of bringing it down below 40 per cent – achieved in just two of the past 16 years – is likely to remain a pipedream.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Does BSE in the Sunday joint cause Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease?

From Mr Harry Cayton

Sir: Peter Popham's article on BSE and its unproven link to Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease in humans ("Warning: some statistics can drive you mad", 25 October) provided a clear and sensible analysis of the information relating to what remains an exceedingly rare dementia. It was a pity therefore that he asserted at the end that "key People Who Know in the medical profession have given up eating beef".

I know little about other people's eating habits but I'm sure that the demonstrable risk of contracting CJD from eating beef is, as Mr Popham's article argued, non-existent. Do the People Who Know spend their lives anxiously avoiding minuscule risks? Have they given up crossing the road? Have statistics really driven them mad?

We need a great deal more straightforward information about CJD and more money spent on research. The Alzheimer's Disease Society has recently established a CJD family support network and published a booklet that explains the medical and caring issues clearly and simply. Yours sincerely, HAZEL CARROLL, Executive Director, Alzheimer's Disease Society, London, SW1, 26 October

From Dr H. C. Grant

Sir: Here are some important additions to your list of the first 10 years of BSE (25 October): 1981: The Government removed the guidelines, in place for years, on the recycling of dead sheep for feeding to cattle. The agri-food industry immediately reduced the temperature and the time required for processing of the sheep carcasses. But most importantly, the sheep brains were no longer dissolved because the expensive fat solvents (the brain – the infective organ – is very fatty) were no longer included in the mixture. Four years later, the first cow went down with BSE.

1986: The government vets who had identified BSE and its origins were told to keep quiet about it and not to publish their interesting papers on the subject – or else. Furthermore, far from the infective feed being banned immediately, farmers continued to be encouraged to feed this high protein material to their cattle for two years and the disease spread all over the UK.

1988: The Government stated, and still states, that "infected" livestock are destroyed. This is incorrect: only visibly infected livestock are destroyed, leaving an unknown number of equally infected but unidentifiable animals. There is no test to identify them and the only scientist

to have perfected such a test has been prevented by the Government from using it. Yours faithfully, H. C. GRANT, London, NW3

From Mr David Firth

Sir: "Why should we worry about 'mad cow' disease when the incidence among vicars is higher than among farmers?" Peter Popham reports that there is a statistical excess of cases of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD) in cattle farmers compared with the general population, but seeks to dismiss this because at least one other occupational group, vicars, has a higher rate of reported incidence of CJD (11.8 cases per million vicars, against fewer than two cases per million cattle farmers).

The higher rate among vicars is irrelevant. There are scores of occupational groups commonly distinguished in epidemiological work, and the rate of incidence of any disease inevitably varies across those groups, even if there is in fact no link between the disease and occupation.

So, even when there is no such link, there is inevitably some occupational group that has the highest rate of incidence; and the rate of incidence in that group is typically very high, only because it has to be

higher than all the others. Thus a rate as high as 11.8 cases per million in the highest group is not unexpected.

Moreover, it might be noted that a calculated rate of 11.8 cases per million would arise from a single reported case in an occupational group with around 85,000 members; and how many vicars are there? The clergy has no special cause for concern.

So why should we worry? Because if one considers a priori what findings might represent evidence of the infection of humans by BSE ("mad cow disease"), an excess of CJD cases in cattle farmers would surely qualify (as would an excess of cases in the meat-processing industry, for example). And such an excess has apparently been found.

Yours faithfully, DAVID FIRTH, Nuffield College, Oxford, 26 October

The writer is a Senior Fellow in Statistics for the Social Sciences.

From Mrs Hazel Lye

Sir: Peter Popham's report about BSE briefly brings to light the fact that zoos gave scrapie-infected fates to their animals. This begs the dreaded question – did the several antelope species bred by London Zoo

and released into the Middle East and Africa, to repopulate their decimated numbers, carry BSE?

If so, the predatory species including our own, in these areas, will have the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries to thank (or sue) for spreading their invention. Yours faithfully, HAZEL LYE, London, W14, 25 October

From Mrs Meryl Johnson

Sir: With reference to Peter Popham's article on BSE, my father regularly ate sheep's brains during the war – they were considered a great delicacy. If BSE originally comes from sheep's brains, why was this not noticed before now? Or do we assume that some people have been wrongly diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease.

He last ate brains in 1969 or 1970 when he asked a friend in the wholesale meat business to get him some. What he got was a sheep's head, and he had to get the contents out himself. It put the whole family off their Sunday lunch the following week.

My father lived until his early sixties and died of a heart attack. Was he one of the lucky ones? Yours faithfully, M. JOHNSON, Ware, Hertfordshire, 25 October

Victims of violence

From Professor Judith Masson

Sir: The Family Homes and Domestic Violence Bill is under threat because providing protection to unmarried victims of violence is thought by a few Tory MPs to undermine marriage. If there are no adequate remedies for those who are not married, they will have to marry – not because this will strengthen their relationships, but because marriage gives access to the courts. This turns marriage from a public expression of commitment into a remedy for failed relationships.

The use of violence is wrong. Surely no one can believe that it is less wrong because the victim is only your unmarried partner or her child. Laws that emphasise the wrong of violence and meet the needs of adult and child victims are too important to sacrifice for dogma about the place of marriage.

Yours faithfully, JUDITH MASSON, Leicester

In search of our greatest athlete

From Mr Tish Reid

Sir: Is it correct to assume that the term "athlete" is restricted to a competitor of track and field athletics? The Magazine article on Linford Christie (21 October) suggested that Mr Christie is the greatest athlete this country has ever produced, but this has been disputed by Tim Mickleburgh (Letters, 25 October) who puts forward Sebastian Coe and Daley Thompson.

I would suggest that this title belongs to an athlete in a different sport – to Steve Redgrave, Olympic champion in rowing in 1984, 1988 and 1992, world champion in 1986, 1987, 1991, 1993, 1994 and 1995, and poised to continue his reign as Olympic champion with his partner Matthew Pinsent in the 1996 Olympic Games.

He is a superb athlete in every sense, still bringing home the goods in a supremely tough sport, and very much produced by this country. Give other sports their due and raise the awareness of the public to the very talented champions there are in this country.

Yours faithfully, TISH REID, London, E4

From Mr Mike Aris

Sir: The greatest athlete this country has ever produced? What about the Scottish ultra-distance runner Don Ritchie, MBE? Don Ritchie? Athletics does not end after four laps of a track.

Don's 100 miles world-best of 11hrs 30min 51secs has stood since 1977; his 100 km world best of 6hrs 10min 20secs has stood since 1978, his 200 km world best of 16hrs 19min 16secs has stood since 1991, and this was set when he was 47 years old! This year, he has set world bests for a 50-year-old at 30 miles, 50 km, 40 miles, 50 miles and 100 km at times only a handful of runners of any age could hope to achieve. What is more, this extremely reserved and modest man has done it all for the love of sport – ultra-distance running is about amateur athletics.

Yours faithfully, MIKE ARIS, London, W5

DAVID AARONOVITCH Maggie month



Goodbye, October, welcome Thatcherism – for it's time to change the name. The whole of this month has seen the greatest living Englishwoman celebrating her 70th birthday. At No 10 she celebrated with the Majors. At Claridge's she celebrated with John Redwood and Jeffrey Archer. In the Hendon Hall Hotel, Hendon, she celebrated with Finley Conag and Jeffrey Archer. And on Monday night, at Union Station in Washington, she celebrated with America. That's a whole lotta birthday.

And nothing could demonstrate better the superiority of her vision than to contrast the style and ambition of her transatlantic affair with a pathetic attempt by the scintillating Germans to hold a party of their own. Herr Kohl's bash was to mark the 40th birthday of the Bundeswehr (the German army) and took place on Thursday in Bonn.

These Burgers in uniforms paraded out on to a lawn near the university, each one clutching a sparkler. For half an hour a brass band pumped out a medley of Rod Stewart numbers, as adapted by the kommandant of the band school. Then everyone went home. Another failure for big government.

Just three days earlier Baroness Thatcher had shown how much better the unfettered forces of private enterprise do these things. For a start, her valuable work for a cigarette party was sponsored to the tune of a million bucks. The Philip Morris Mrs Thatcher Birthday Show was a reward for her work in spreading the benefits of smoking to places like Azerbaijan (where they need something to keep their minds off the war with Armenia).

And the guests at the party each paid a \$1,000 to be there. (This is a brilliant idea, but it doesn't always work at home: Mothercare didn't feel it was "appropriate" to let me have \$100 towards my partner's party, despite the amount of money that we've spent there. And a nominal charge of a measly 10 quid to close friends has resulted in an inexplicable exodus for unseasonal holi-

days on the date in question.) Oh, what an occasion Mrs T's party was! Charlton Heston was there, strapped to his chair. Newt Gingrich was projected as a hologram into the seat between Nancy Reagan and the birthday girl; and famous American anchorwomen paid tribute to Margaret. Barbara Walters recalled the vital relationship with President Reagan: "Reagan and Thatcher are names linked together like Rogers and Astaire, Arding and Hobbs, Toulouse and Lautrec."

Then Maggie – as the simple friendly folk of America call her – stood up and spoke from the heart. Thank you, she said. Thank you for always being there not long after we needed you. But in particular, she said, "thank you for the Reagan-Thatcher years". Some may scoff at the apparent naivety of thanking a whole country (a for a historical epoch and b) for yourself. Not me. My own speech to the (sadly rather depleted) guests at my spouse's party will pick up this theme, expressing gratitude for the Peloponnesian Wars (a very interesting period) and the David-Sarah years.

It does strike me that one thing was missing from these Thatcher celebrations: the Disney film. Pocahontas is fine, but if there are to be heroic stories loosely based on real events then surely Ronnie and Margaret deserve cartoon treatment. He would be strong (if a tiny bit slow), she would be beautiful (with slightly protruding eyes and teeth). His inevitable animal friends would include Cap the irascible eagle and Quigley the astrological beaver; she would be accompanied everywhere by Parkinson the amorous rabbit and Whitelaw the portly owl. Together they would take on the Evil Empire of the wicked Brezhnev (all ice, nasty bears and cold winds), triumph (sudden spring, flowers, cute squirrels and Lloyd Webber songs) and live happily ever after. And the merchandising – the little rubber Ronnie and Margaret Maggies in the toyboxes – a tangible and lasting reminder of the triumph of freedom.

QUOTE UNQUOTE

I am a Minister of State, but judging by the direction of my career recently, it may just be a matter of time – sacked Tory party chairman Jeremy Hanley, now Foreign Office Minister of State, after being addressed as a junior minister by Labour MP during question time.

Anyone who is arrogant doesn't believe he is arrogant. I admit one or two of my friends probably think I am, but I don't – Jonathan Dimbleby, journalist and broadcaster.

News stories are, of course, alarmist and we should play on people's fears. ... We should sell stories hard, but just stop short of distortion – Sarah Sands, soon-to-be deputy editor of the "Daily Telegraph", in a memo intended for her new boss, Charles Moore.

If life were to be found on this new planet just discovered outside our solar system then it would have been contaminated by original sin and would require salvation – Father Piero Coda, Italian theology professor, advocating evangelisation missions in outer space.

There are now more important things in life than a pretty cocktail frock – Wayne Hemingway, head of design and co-founder of the controversial Red or Dead fashion house.

Signing on in the old days

From Mr Colin Campbell

Sir: Perhaps the old ways were better ("Bailiffs will enforce curb on benefits", 23 October). At nearly 70, I will recall just after the war. If unemployed, I signed on at the nearest unemployment office, where, for me, the dole queue was on a Thursday. My other signing on day was Tuesday. If these days were missed, other than by certified medical reasons, I didn't get paid. I found the waiting annoying, but not degrading. After all, we were in the same boat, whether we waited 10 minutes or three hours. I did both.

If there were any suitable vacancies available, I was given a green card of introduction to a prospective employer, who would sign it and declare he had taken me on, or not. Employers who did not go through the system were at fault. Prospective employees who defaulted, did not get paid.

I know that I have rather oversimplified the system, but it was run by experienced civil servants, and I never remained unemployed longer than necessary. I do not recall the loss of millions of pounds, but I do recall that I and many others actively searched for work.

The system would not be appreciated by the employers of moonlighters or illegal immigrants, as it offers a control that only those genuinely searching for work obtain employment. It does need, however, a dedicated and stable staff of civil servants, not working to profit from the amount of money they pay out.

It never hurt the genuinely sick and disabled. It did encourage the Government of the time actively to try to expand the labour market. Yours sincerely, COLIN CAMPBELL, Ipswich

How to signal that you're sorry

From Ms Kate Rankin

Sir: This morning, driving through my home town, I made a stupid mistake, forcing another driver to brake suddenly. It was entirely my fault, which I was anxious to acknowledge. Would it not be helpful if there were some recognised sign among drivers to signal "sorry"? We have been hearing a lot recently about "road rage" and apologising in such circumstances might be a simple way to avoid some confrontations on the roads.

My son, who is autistic and cannot speak, touches his lips with his fingers to signal "sorry". Perhaps drivers could adopt the same gesture. Yours, K. RANKIN, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, 25 October

Oh, for a stylish cycle helmet

From Mr Hugh Wain

Sir: I could not agree more with Magnus Mills about cycle helmets (True Gripes, 26 October). They always make one look a complete and utter wally. Surely it cannot be beyond the wit of man to design a (cheap) functional cycle helmet that does not leave one looking like a Martian in a black-and-white film. Yours sincerely, HUGH WAIN, Reading, Berkshire, 26 October



Vietnamese schoolchildren in Hanoi viewing this week's solar eclipse

Reuters

Perfect viewing of a total eclipse

From Mr John Wright

Sir: I read with interest your articles about the recent total eclipse in India, because I was lucky enough to see one under perfect conditions in February 1953 in the northern Sudan. It was at 11am and, in February, clear skies were so guaranteed that four years earlier astronomers started writing to me in the Survey Department because they wished to come to observe it.

When it occurred, I was stationed 300 miles north of Khartoum; and as the local astronomical expert I had told the British and Sudanese there about its causes and what to expect, using white and black ping-pong bats, a lamp and a tennis ball etc.

On the day, we moved out into the desert to be on the path of totality and climbed a small hill. Two interesting phenomena occurred. First, which I had not foreseen, the dappled sunlight caused by chinks in a bush on the hill (which are of course elliptical images of the sun) turned into crescents as the moon advanced across it.

Secondly, which I had read about and was expecting, the tiny spot of light at the edge of the sun just before and after totality acted like a star and twinkled. This meant that the edge of the shadow was not sharp but a series of shadow bands; and these raced towards us across the desert at a thousand miles an hour as the Earth rotated under the images of the

sun and moon. It was an awe-inspiring sight; and of course the shadow bands came from the East; so I was puzzled by your description of the eclipse moving south-eastwards in some of your articles about it. Yours faithfully, JOHN WRIGHT, West Wittering, West Sussex

From Mr Matthew Duckett

Sir: The people of India will be happy (or not, depending on their point of view) to learn that Tuesday's solar eclipse is not in fact the last one that they will enjoy this century. That of 11 August 1999 will be total in north India towards sunset, after visiting parts of Cornwall and Devon earlier in the day. Yours sincerely, MATTHEW DUCKETT, Romford

Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor, Independent, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 6DL

(Fax: 0171-293 2054; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk) and include a daytime telephone number.

Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.

EDITOR: Ian Hargreaves. DEPUTY EDITOR: Martin Jacques. MANAGING EDITOR: Colin Hughes. SENIOR EDITOR: Charles Leadbeater. SENIOR EDITOR: David Robson. EXECUTIVE NEWS EDITOR: Michael Williams. ASSISTANT EDITOR: Simon Kidner. NEWSWRITER: PULBING. BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Liam Neill (chairman), Sir Gordon Barrie, John Lees, Graham, Ben Bradshaw, Peter Doo, Al. Polanski, Brendan Hopkins, David Montgomery, Andrew Whitman Smith. ADVERTISING DIRECTOR: Jeremy Reed.

حکومت من الاجل

Investment: financial services by phone 21
Renaissance at Triumph 21
Market Report: peso fears for Allied 22

CITY & BUSINESS EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

business

INDEPENDENT • Saturday 28 October 1995

BUSINESS NEWS DESK: tel 0171 293 2530 fax 0171 293 2098

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

FTSE 100

Day	Index
Monday	3470
Tuesday	3460
Wednesday	3470
Thursday	3460
Friday	3470

Dow Jones*

Day	Index
Monday	7000
Tuesday	6950
Wednesday	6980
Thursday	6950
Friday	6980

Nikkei

Day	Index
Monday	20000
Tuesday	19800
Wednesday	19900
Thursday	19800
Friday	19900

Index	Close	Day's change	Change(%)	12 Mth High	12 Mth Low	Yield(%)
FTSE 100	3497.9	-21.7	-0.6	3593.0	2943.4	4.0
FTSE 250	3864.3	-21.0	-0.5	5991.3	3300.9	3.5
FTSE 350	1740.8	-10.5	-0.6	1785.3	1477.0	3.9
FT Small Cap	1938.5	-10.3	-0.5	1993.1	1678.5	3.3
FT All-Share	1720.3	-10.3	-0.6	1782.8	1465.2	3.9
New York*	4730.6	+26.7	+0.6	4814.7	3674.6	2.4
Tokyo	17337.2	-389.5	-2.2	18989.6	14485.4	0.8
Hong Kong	9680.6	-93.7	-1.0	10032.9	6967.9	3.2
Frankfurt	2086.1	-35.8	-1.7	2317.0	1911.0	2.0
Paris	1742.4	-11.74	-0.7	2017.3	1721.1	3.8
Milan	9211.0	-54.0	-0.6	10811.0	8612.0	2.1

*New Jones at 1500 hours, Dow Jones graph at 1430 hours

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

FTSE 350 companies (including investment trusts)

Rises	Price(p)	Change(p)	%Change	Falls	Price(p)	Change(p)	%Change
Danka Bus Sys	514	25	5.1	T&N	148	12	7.5
MAI	329	11	3.53	Babcock Int	172	7	3.9
Astra Group	102.5	2.5	2.5	BSkyB	370	15	3.9
Diploma	433	9	2.1	Bullish Vita	224	8	3.5
Pinkington	184.5	3.5	1.9	House of Fraser	146	5	3.3

INTEREST RATES

Short sterling*

Day	Rate
Monday	5.80
Tuesday	5.75
Wednesday	5.78
Thursday	5.75
Friday	5.78

UK medium gilt

Day	Rate
Monday	5.80
Tuesday	5.75
Wednesday	5.78
Thursday	5.75
Friday	5.78

US long bond

Day	Rate
Monday	5.80
Tuesday	5.75
Wednesday	5.78
Thursday	5.75
Friday	5.78

*New York rates and DM rates at 1500 hours

Thursday 9th 1995

Money Market Rates

Bond Yields*

Index	1 Month	3 Year	Medium Bond (%)	Year Ago	Long Bond	(%)Year Ago
UK	5.63	5.81	8.02	8.78	8.17	8.61
US	5.75	5.72	6.04	7.87	6.38	8.04
Japan	0.47	0.34	2.92	4.67	3.56	5.03
Germany	4.00	4.00	6.84	7.68	7.18	8.08

*Benchmark indices

CURRENCIES

\$/S

Day	Rate
Monday	1.58
Tuesday	1.57
Wednesday	1.58
Thursday	1.57
Friday	1.58

£/DM

Day	Rate
Monday	2.21
Tuesday	2.20
Wednesday	2.21
Thursday	2.20
Friday	2.21

\$/Y

Day	Rate
Monday	101.45
Tuesday	101.40
Wednesday	101.45
Thursday	101.40
Friday	101.45

Pound	Yesterday	Change	Year Ago	Dollar	Yesterday	Change	Year Ago
\$ (London)	1.5805	+0.58c	1.6377	\$ (London)	0.6327	-0.23	0.6708
\$ (New York)**	1.5786	-0.50c	1.6377	\$ (New York)	0.6335	+0.28c	-
DM (London)	2.2119	+0.57p	2.4519	DM (London)	1.4005	-0.14p	1.4972
Yen (London)	160.50	+0.16	158.68	Yen (London)	101.45	-0.30	96.89
\$ Index	83.8	+0.1	89.7	\$ Index	83.1	-0.1	82.7

**New York rates and DM rates December at 1500 hours

OTHER INDICATORS

Yesterday	Today's change	Year Ago	Index	Today's change	Year Ago	Index	Today's change	Year Ago
Oil Brent \$	15.26	+0.01	17.22	RPI	150.6	3.9pc	2.4	16 Nov
Gold \$	382.75	-0.25	388.80	GDP	108.8	2.4pc	4.1	20 Nov
Gold £	242.17	-1.05	237.41	Base Rates	-	6.75pc	5.25	-

Source: Datastream

Growth surprise: GDP rise confounds market expectations but inflation stays under control

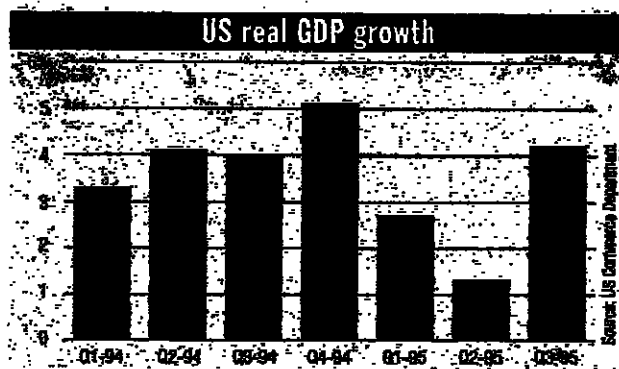
US economy forges ahead

PAUL WALLACE
Economics Editor

The US economy sprinted ahead in the third quarter, but inflation remained firmly under control, with a key indicator showing its smallest increase in over 30 years. Both the growth and the inflation figures confounded market expectations.

After increasing at an annual rate of only 1.3 per cent in the second quarter, real GDP jumped by 4.2 per cent, its highest since the exceptional growth at the end of last year. The increase was much more than the 2.6 per cent markets had been expecting.

The result was an immediate sell-off in Treasury bonds as dealers hastily revised their hopes of a cut in interest rates by the US Federal Reserve when it meets on 15 November. The 30-year bond fell by over almost a point on the news. However, it then retraced the



entire fall and by early afternoon was trading half a point above Thursday's close.

Stocks also fell back by 28 points on similar fears that interest rates would be held at their present level of 5.75 per cent. By early afternoon, however, the Dow Jones Industrial Average was up by around 25 points.

Inflation stayed firmly under

control despite the spurt in growth. The implicit price deflator rose only 0.6 per cent, the smallest increase for 32 years and much less than the 1.6 per cent rise in the second quarter and the 1.9 per cent increase expected by the markets.

President Bill Clinton said the growth figure showed that the economy was "on the right track". However, he warned

the Federal Reserve against moving interest rates up: "I don't believe the growth figure should raise interest rates because inflation is so low."

Mark Cliffe, international economist at HSBC Markets, said: "The realistic chances of a rate cut have been put back to the 19 December meeting by which time it's possible there may be a budget deal."

The US Fed has indicated that it may be prepared to loosen monetary policy to match a tightening in fiscal policy.

The growth occurred because consumers splashed out on durable goods, exports rebounded and housing recovered. Government spending also rose sharply.

Consumption of durable goods rose by 12 per cent. Housing investment rose at an annual rate of 11 per cent after falling by 14 per cent in the second quarter and 4 per cent in

the first. Exports increased at an annual rate of 11 per cent.

Another reason the expansion was higher than had been expected was that inventories did not pull growth down as they had done in the second quarter when they depressed it by 1.2 per cent.

Economists had been expecting further destocking to depress growth by nearly 1 per cent. Instead, restocking contributed modestly to growth.

The rebound in the bond and stock markets came as economists and dealers peered more deeply into the details of the performance of the economy in the third quarter.

The general conclusion was that third-quarter strength may be followed by weakness in the fourth quarter - particularly as, on the initial evidence of department store and car sales, the fourth quarter "has started on a weak note", according to Mr Cliffe.

Although business investment was stronger than had been expected, much of the growth was concentrated in personal computers, something which may not continue.

And it continued to slacken from the strong growth rates chalked up in the past three quarters.

At 8 per cent, it was down from 11 per cent in the second quarter, 22 per cent in the first quarter and 14 per cent in the final quarter of 1994.

Government spending is also expected to be flat in the final quarter. Another query over the underlying strength of the economy is whether export growth will continue to be as strong as projected by official statisticians.

There is also potential for revision in the trade figures. Official statisticians apparently projected the strong performance in August into their estimates for September.

American newsprint 'cartel' inquiry

DAVID USBORNE
New York

Prompted by complaints from several newspaper publishers, the US government has launched an investigation into possible anti-competitive pricing practices by North American suppliers of newsprint.

The Justice Department in Washington confirmed the inquiry, but would give no details. It is thought likely that investigators are trying to establish whether suppliers have been colluding to push up newsprint prices, which is illegal.

Newspaper publishers in the US, as in Europe, have been badly hurt by steep increases in newsprint costs over the past 12 months. Newsprint typically accounts for about 20 per cent of a newspaper's production costs.

The rise in newsprint prices has been cited as a factor behind recent decisions to close the *Houston Chronicle* in Texas and to merge some other regional dailies. Most other US newspapers, such as the *New York Times*, have been obliged to curtail editorial space and to raise newsstand prices.

In Britain, many newspapers have suffered the double hit of escalating newsprint costs and a brutal price war instigated by Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation, publisher of the *Times*, the *Sun* and *Today*.

Recently, US publishers have been put on warning to expect yet another increase in newsprint prices from February, although prices are expected to level off thereafter. After rising steadily for several years, the price of newsprint in the US shot up from \$469 (£303) a tonne in 1994 to \$675 last spring. In the 10 months of this year, prices have soared by 40 per cent.

Suppliers have cited rising pulp prices and a sudden surge in demand for newsprint worldwide as reasons for the price increases. After several years of huge losses, newsprint producers have been keen to generate good profits while holding back from building new capacity.

The increased demand for newsprint has come as economic recovery in many countries has generated new advertising flows for publishers, who have subsequently tried to step up their pagination. There have been virtually no new mills built in North America for several years. Newsprint in Britain is largely supplied by Scandinavian producers.



Rail franchise bids in

Railtrack - run by Sir Bob Horton (left) and John Edmunds, the chief executive - and the government breathed a sigh of relief yesterday when another crucial step in rail privatisation was passed with the closing of bids for the first three passenger franchises, writes Russell Hotten.

The government is currently conducting a Railtrack roadshow among city institutions to drum up support for next year's

privatisation. The prospect of insufficient bidders coming forward yesterday for the franchises would have caused a big embarrassment. Although the government refused to disclose how many bidders had registered, it is understood that several potential buyers have come

forward for each franchise.

The first three lines up for grabs are the Great Western, South West Trains and the London-Tilbury-Southend Line, which together represent annual revenue of £430m per year, or about 20 per cent of British Rail's total.

One of the bidders for Great Western is a management and employee buy out led by the line's managing director Brian Scott. He said his bid focused on "substantial customer service improvements" and that there would be an announcement next week about "important

guarantees on service improvements and details of innovative product developments."

Sea Containers, the shipping and hotels group, said it had entered two bids, one for Great Western Trains and another joint bid for Great Western and South West together. Christopher Garnett, executive handling SeaCon's bidding, said the tender offer was for one seven-year franchise and one "longer" proposal.

Mortgage demand falls

NIC CICUTTI

Demand for home loans fell sharply again last month with British banks reporting a 13 per cent drop in approvals for September.

The drop to 29,300 from 33,700 approvals in August came as one housing expert prepared to slash his forecast for 1996 house price rises to just 2 per cent. Rob Thomas, an analyst at the Swiss banking group UBS, said he would be revising downwards his earlier forecast of a 5 per cent rise next year.

"After the weakness suffered by the market this year, it is hard to see how it will be possible for house prices to show such a marked rise so quickly," Mr Thomas said. "I am still optimistic, but I do not believe

things will pick up dramatically in the short term."

A drop in approval numbers is often expected in September, at the end of the home-buying season. But Roger Brown, director of statistics and information at the British Bankers' Association, said the comparable drop last year was 4 per cent. "One would not want to read too much into one month's figures but they do show that mortgage lending in September was subdued for banks," he said. Seasonally adjusted lending fell from £597m in August to £546m last month.

Exact comparisons with last year are difficult because of the addition of figures from Cheltenham & Gloucester, the building society recently taken over by Lloyds Bank.

But Ian Shepherdson, an an-

alyst at HSBC Greenwell, claimed the seasonally adjusted figures from the BBA showed the market was now on the mend. "The danger with looking at statistics like this in a superficial manner is that they do not tell the full story."

Although the early part of the year was a disaster for the housing market, seasonally adjusted figures for loan approvals from banks and building societies showed a consistent rise in the past four months, up 19 per cent, he said.

Inland Revenue transaction records also showed a 3 per cent rise in September over August. "If we add this to the slight house price rises recorded by Halifax and Nationwide in the past couple of months, there are signs that the situation is changing."

Pipeline rethink by British Gas

MARY FAGAN
Industrial Correspondent

British Gas has backed down over plans to sharply increase prices for the use of its pipeline system. The proposal had outraged rival suppliers who need to use the pipes.

After a meeting on Thursday with the watchdog, Ofgas, the British Gas pipeline arm, Transco, said it would issue "revised" prices, then give customers six weeks' grace before putting the changes in place.

The climb-down is a victory for Clare Spottiswoode, director general of Ofgas, although she warned: "We will not believe the battle is over until we see the whites of their eyes and see something on paper. I hope they will see sense and come back to the table with something which can be agreed. The other suppliers are extremely upset and we need to see something sensible put in place."

Rival suppliers - including North Sea producers and electricity firms - complained that the planned increases, in some cases up to 10 per cent, would have almost wiped out the margins for some firms. They were also aggrieved because the increases came as a surprise and some feared they had already been agreed by Ofgas.

The row has angered Transco, which accounts for the bulk of British Gas's multi-billion pound assets. Earlier this month, Harry Moulson, man-

aging director, complained that his company had been in negotiation for four months with Ofgas and felt that the planned increases were in line with regulations governing the industry.

In a letter to Ms Spottiswoode on 19 October, Mr Moulson said: "I must point out that Transco has been completely open with Ofgas about the effects of the new prices on the different markets, and I



Clare Spottiswoode: 'Waiting to see whites of their eyes'

find it impossible to believe that Ofgas did not already have sufficient information to make a judgement on whether or not the prices were in accordance with the authorisation."

In previous correspondence, Mr Moulson said that there appeared to be a "serious communications problem, since we have been talking to your directors and people for months".

Shares in TV producer suspended

Shares in Sunset & Vine, the independent television producer, were suspended yesterday at 100p as the company announced that it is in discussions which may lead to a substantial acquisition. Market speculation has linked it to a possible deal with the privately-controlled Molinare, a Soho-based facilities house.

Molinare is larger than Sunset & Vine so a merger would effectively be a reverse takeover. The board said that if the proposed deal goes ahead it will require shareholder approval. Last month Sunset & Vine issued a profits warning, saying that its second-half profits would not "significantly" exceed its interim profits of £278,000.

Littlewoods EGM to discuss deal

Littlewoods, the retail and football pools group, which is facing a £1.2bn offer from its former chief executive Barry Dale, has called for an emergency general meeting to discuss the proposals. It is likely to take place in December and will be confined to the 32 members of the Moores family, which controls the group. If the Dale consortium wins more than 50 per cent of the votes, it will be able to examine the Littlewoods books, which will make a full bid for the company more likely.

Shares in shoe parts firm tumble

Shoe parts manufacturer Chamberlain Phipps tumbled 35p to 9p after warning that market conditions had remained soft and demand uneven since late August. The group's interim results to the end of September are expected to show a material shortfall compared to the same period last year, although an interim dividend of 2.7p should be maintained. Full-year profits to March 1996 are also expected to be lower than last year's.

Tesco own-label price cut

Tesco is to reduce the cost of 30 own-label vitamins by 20 per cent from Monday. The company said this move does not affect licensed branded vitamins, which are covered by the resale price maintenance agreement.

Receivers form insurance link

The Society of Practitioners of Insolvency (SPI), the professional association for receivers, is launching its own captive insurance arm to provide the minimum £250,000 cover required by law for each insolvency practitioner. It also announced yesterday that the Government has given it permission to draw up a statement of best practice for the profession. And in the fifth year since it was founded, SPI has won over the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland as affiliates, making it a truly national body.

Gas jobs boost for Ulster

About 100 jobs will be created in Northern Ireland following the award of an £11.5m contract by Premier Energy Suppliers - part of British Gas - to build a natural gas pipeline between Ballylumford power station and Carrickfergus.

Reuters revenue rises 15%

Reuters, the financial and news information company, said its revenue for the third quarter rose 15% to £677m, compared with £59

When you're
waiting for an invoice
to be paid,
throw your calendar
away and
buy a stopwatch.

There's no need to wait months to be paid, as Barclays will settle up to 80% of your invoices within one working day. We'll free your cash while you retain the contact with your customers. So your business has the funds to run and grow and you stay in control. The service is available to businesses with sales of £250,000 p.a. or over. For more details phone 0800 418 418, or race down to your local branch.



BARCLAYS

SALES LEDGER FINANCE

صكنا من العمل



'It was an old-fashioned vote for quality public service broadcasting, and the quaint idea that regulators can force broadcasters to educate even as they entertain'

ITC stages mini-revolt against commercial TV

The Independent Television Commission's decision to award the Channel 5 licence to Pearson and MAI must surely be reckoned as the last act of the old broadcasting order. Dismissing the newcomers, Virgin TV and UKTV with a certain sniffiness (albeit backed up with the sort of legalese that the losers will have difficulty fighting), the ITC went with the 'old boys'. First there's Greg Dyke, he of Roland Rat fame, and the former head of LWT. How strange it must seem to this former iconoclast of middle class public service broadcasting to be thought so respectable now. But how sweet too, for yesterday's decision marks a triumphant return to centre stage in mainstream British television.

Then, there is the rump of the old Thames TV production and broadcasting powerhouse, latterly reduced to production alone when it lost its licence to Carlton. Thames types were intimately involved in the preparation of the winning Channel 5 bid. They too are now back in the saddle. Finally, two current ITV licence holders have also been given the nod: MAI, fast emerging as a close ally of Pearson, controls Meridian and Anglia, the latter a production power in its own right.

And to whom did the ITC say no? Perennial bridesmaid Virgin, which seems to have a congenital inability to win government-run auctions (although to be fair, it did finally get a commercial radio licence). And UKTV: newcomers indeed, but surely not to the world of television, in which they

have excelled in Canada, South America and Australia.

The ITC was sending a signal here. This was a mini-revolt against the direction that commercial TV is taking, in the fragmented world of satellite, cable and, soon, digital. It was an old-fashioned vote for "quality" public service broadcasting, and the quaint idea that regulators can force broadcasters to "educate" even as they "entertain".

There is no doubt that there were problems with the losing bids, as we have pointed out before. UKTV was obliged to create an odd ownership and financing structure because CanWest, the main partner, could not line up a serious British broadcaster (the best it could do was bring tiny SelectTV, of Birds of a Feather fame, on board). Virgin, for its part, was vulnerable on its VCR return plan, which relied on toll-free numbers rather than blanket home visits.

But the ITC did not reject the bids on these bases. It used its discretionary powers to judge programme quality – clearly a subjective matter, whatever all the rules and regulations say. By going with Pearson/MAI, it knows precisely what it will get: roughly, more of the same. It also helps bolster the old fashioned concept of public service broadcasting against the onslaught of Rupert Murdoch and his like, the more so because of Pearson's now strong connections with the BBC.

Can another standard, mainstream television station make money? The answer has got to be yes. Channel 5 will probably break

even within three years, provided it can build audience share to the 15-plus per cent mark. Advertisers would be happy to see another channel capable of delivering mass audiences. With men like Greg Dyke on board, mass audiences are definitely within reach.

The real winner, then, is Mr Dyke, and that will reflect well on his employers, Pearson. The addition of a share in Channel 5 to Pearson's already large stable of television assets confirms the direction the company has wanted to take. It will be one of the UK's most important broadcasters and the weight of television will be even greater in Pearson's portfolio of media and entertainment. With this win, and perhaps with the addition of SelectTV (for which Pearson is bidding) and the US distribution company ACI (an offer for which may be just a few weeks away), critical mass has finally been reached.

AT&T is up to something

Labour is certain to call a halt to the present takeover free-for-all if it gets into power. With every prospect of that happening, investment bankers have a lot to pack in over the next year. A very substantial number of deals are in the pipeline. The only question is just how ambitious dare they get? There must be a limit even to this Government's tolerance, though it has yet to be tested. Presumably, British Telecom would

be out of the question, but Cable & Wireless – a loose federation of individually attractive telecommunications assets with little if any strategy to unite them – might just about be possible.

That's the way investment bankers are thinking, anyway. In their search for a suitable bidder, few have failed to knock at the door of AT&T, the US telecommunications giant. AT&T has been there once before, having spent many months looking at the possibility of taking a stake in Mercury as a gateway to a wider international allegiance. Lord Young, C & W's chairman, once described the experience as like being hounded by a bear and the Americans were eventually rejected.

Rumour has it they are now back. Certainly AT&T is up to something. You only have to look at the bizarrely lavish advertising campaign AT&T is running on British TV to realise there is action afoot.

US still has a roadblock ahead

Once again the US economy has surprised the legions of economists and dealers who watch its every twist and turn. The 4 per cent annual rate of growth chalked up in the third quarter was almost double what the markets had predicted. One up for the consumers and investors who actually drive the economy; one down for the analysts who

make a living from predicting and observing it.

These are of course provisional figures, subject to all the usual health warnings about subsequent revisions. But assuming that the estimate holds true, they point to a continuing virtuous circle of low inflation and sustainable growth. It sounds too good to be true. All that now stands in the way of a further easing of monetary policy, the US Fed has indicated, is a credible budget deal.

That, however, is a formidable roadblock. The Republican-controlled Congress and President Clinton are on collision course over key details of the budget. Healthcare reform and tax reductions are still not agreed. Budget brinkmanship may continue to the last minute with Congress refusing to extend the debt ceiling and talk of temporary Treasury default. Even so, the consensus in the markets is that this is par for the course, with the administration and Congress deploying well-honed scare tactics to browbeat the other into submission.

The budget and debt ceiling were linked in both 1985 and 1990. A more compelling reason for optimism about a cut in interest rates is that the strong third-quarter figures may be followed by weaker growth for the rest of the year.

If that is the case, the chances for a reduction in rates look set fair. But it will only be because the virtuous circle of low inflation and sustainable growth is not quite so virtuous as yesterday's figures suggested.

Triumph of skill and a £40m gamble

Four years after its rebirth, the Midlands motorcycle maker is riding high, writes Nigel Cope

When the International Motorcycle Show opens at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham today, the Triumph stand is likely to be the centre of attention. Of the 140,000 biking enthusiasts who are expected to descend on the show in the coming week, many will swoon over the group's latest model, the 900cc Adventurer, an American-influenced roadster that is expected to take the market by storm.

Others will come to cast an admiring glance over the latest Trophy, a redesigned touring bike with heated handlebar grips and built-in panniers, or the Thunderbird, a 900cc beast of a bike, designed in classic 1960s style with no fairing and plenty of exposed chrome.

But there is more significance here than a couple of new machines. Exactly four years after its relaunch in Britain, Triumph claims it is set to break even for the first time.

Bruno Tagliaferri, Triumph's sales and marketing manager, says: "It has always been a long-term project but we are now in a break-even situation. The volume is now at the right kind of level."

Accounts filed at Compa-

nies House show that, in the year to March 1994, Triumph Motorcycles recorded a £5.7m loss on sales of £35m. This compared with higher losses of £7.8m on sales of just £14.6m.

Fortunately Mr Bloor's main company, Bloor Holdings, remains profitable, even though it includes the loss-making Triumph operation in its accounts. In 1994 the company made £11m profit on £141m sales – the housebuilding business recorded profits of £16.5m on sales of £100m, an excellent performance in the current market conditions.

Mr Tagliaferri says that higher volume was the key to success. From its purpose-built factory in Hinckley, Leicestershire, Triumph will manufacture 15,000 motorbikes next year, compared with 35,000 in its first four years put together.

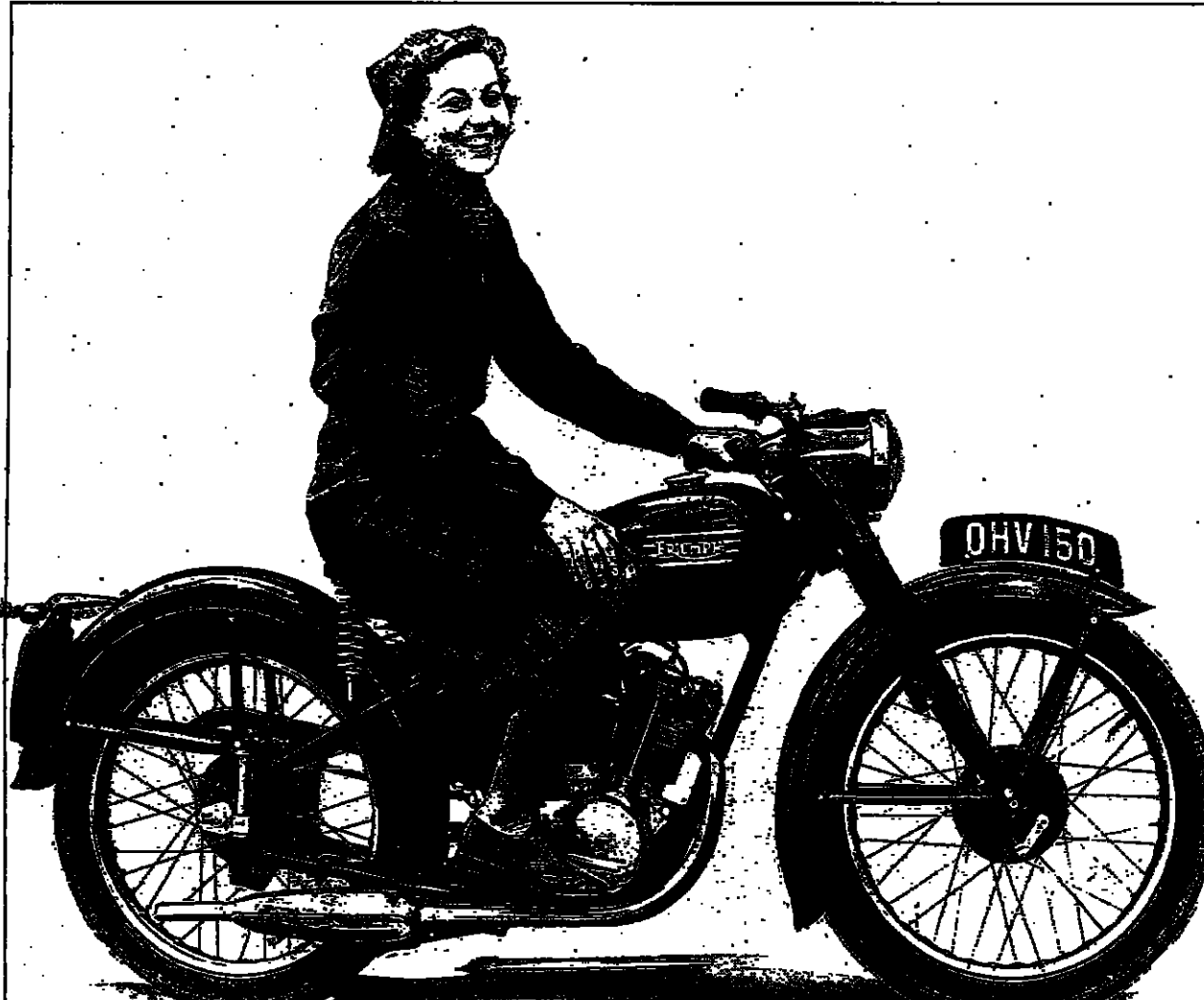
After a planning permission delay, the group is now building a new factory a quarter of a mile from the existing plant to add more capacity. The plant will also create more local jobs, pushing the staff level well beyond the current 370.

Triumph is doing well in the UK, selling 2,500 bikes this year, with a target of 2,750 in 1996. But it is the export market that will make or break the company.

Triumph, so far, is selling in 34 countries, including France, Germany and Japan. Last summer it started marketing in the United States, which it sees as potentially the bike's biggest market.

"America is going to be a huge market for us," Mr Tagliaferri says. During the days of Triumph Meriden, 80 per cent of sales were in America.

After initial scepticism, the new Triumph company now has the backing and respect of the industry. Terry Snelling of *Motor Cycle News* says: "It took them a good year to gain some



Past triumphs: the old Terrier has been consigned to history as the reborn company meets new challenges

credibility as the motorcycle community thought it might be just a flash in the pan. But there was a big pent-up demand for something British."

Triumph has also established a reputation for reliability, a far cry from the days when buying British meant spending the weekend wrist-deep in clutch fluid. Dealers like stocking the bikes because they don't find dissatisfied customers coming back complaining about faults.

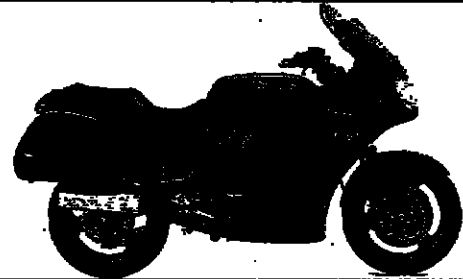
Although expensive – the Thunderbird retails at £8,000 – they hold their value. Triumph has also been helped by the rise in popularity of larger bikes. A

key feature here has been the rise of the boom-again biker, who may have ridden a British bike 20 years ago and is ready to don the leathers again.

After a grim time in the 1980s when the UK motorcycle market suffered badly from the recession, the market is now growing again at a rate of be-

tween 5 and 10 per cent a year. The larger-bike sector has been growing even faster. This compares favourably with the market for smaller machines, which has shrunk owing to high costs, expensive insurance and motorcycling's perceived lack of glamour among younger age groups.

The trade press, which has monitored Triumph's every move, is convinced that, this time, the rebirth is for real. "John Bloor has run Triumph with bullet-proof logic," says *Motor Cycle News*. "Four years on, the company looks stronger than ever."



Trophy winner: Triumph's redesigned touring bike

Cordiant seeks £110m-£130m injection of cash

RUSSELL HOTTEN

Cordiant, the former Saatchi & Saatchi advertising group, is planning a rights issue early next week to raise £110m-£130m from shareholders.

The money, the third cash call in four years, will be used to pay off debts of about £130m and improve the financial position as the agency seeks to recover from the trauma of losing the Saatchi brothers.

Cordiant shares yesterday fell 7p to 84p, continuing their steady decline from a year's high of 148p as investors' concern about the company's financial health grew.

Charlie Scott, chairman, dismissed suggestions that the move was a desperate measure in the face of further decline, adding that Cordiant had renegotiated banking facilities in April and was not in breach of covenants. Under the agreement with its banks, which include Midland, Barclays and Chase Manhattan, a refinancing is not needed until January 1997.

Mr Scott would not discuss the size or timing of the rights issue, but said the conditions were about right.

"We have achieved management stability and won some important accounts," he said. "We are carrying expensive debt, but can improve on the terms."

The reduction of the debt from £700m had been a big achievement, he said.

But another Cordiant source said that analysts' estimates

that the company was looking for up to £130m were not wide of the mark. "I think you can assume that a rights issue is close," he said.

In an official announcement to the Stock Exchange, Cordiant said that it had put proposals to its banks about raising new equity from shareholders and was in the process of obtaining approval. An analyst estimated that Cordiant, valued at £185m, would need a one-for-one rights issue at 60p to raise £120m, and the cash call becomes more difficult the lower the share price.

The first cash call in March 1991, under the Saatchi & Saatchi name, comprised a recapitalisation at 10p to raise £60m. In June 1993 the company raised £73m via a 10-for-27 rights issue at 130p a share. The company added that it did not anticipate another rights issue for at least three years, though things have changed substantially since then.

Maurice Saatchi, joint founder, was ousted after a bitter battle, and the company lost important business, including the \$500m Mars account.

In January, the competition to fill the hole left by this lost business may get tougher when a restriction preventing Maurice Saatchi poaching former clients is lifted.

In the six months to 30 June, Cordiant made a £29m pre-tax loss and warned that the loss of prestigious clients would hit its performance in the second half.

COMPANY RESULTS				
	Turnover £	Pre-tax £	EPS	Dividend
Cordiant 1994/1995 (p)	1,01m (1,05m)	-0.38m (-0.32m)	-1.86p (-1.59p)	nil (nil)
Midland and Saatchi (p)	16.4m (24.5m)	0.17m (-1.18m)	-0.1p (-4p)	nil (nil)
Upson & Southern (p)	30.4m (17.3m)	-0.59m (-0.01m)	8p (-29.7p)	nil (nil)
Walsworth (p)	18.9m (18.2m)	-0.36m (1.07m)	-1.1p (8.4p)	nil (nil)

(p) - Final (i) - Interim (N) - Nine months * - Comparative figures are for 78-week period

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

Edited by TOM STEVENSON

Financial selling embraces new world

The financial services industry is undergoing a massive upheaval. The accelerating move towards direct, phone-based banking and insurance has far-reaching implications for us, the consumers, but equally for the established companies that have always provided financial services, and the new entrants that will take them on.

The enabling technology, the telephone, allied with enormously powerful computers, looks like rendering the traditional branch-based networks of the banks and, especially, the building societies, largely obsolete. What has surprised observers most about the transition from face-to-face financial services provision to phone transactions is the speed with which the public has taken to the new order. We want cheap, efficient services and couldn't really care less who provides them.

Association of British Insurers statistics suggest that, in 1994, 21 per cent of all personal insurance lines were transacted on a direct basis. Nikko Europe, a broker that recently issued a study of the direct financial services market, believes that figure could double by 2000. Providers of retail financial services will plainly be hugely disadvantaged if they don't exploit the direct market to good effect.

Products will need to be standardised to simplify the task of advertising

in the media (the main route to attracting new business), and service will have to be exemplary to hold on to clients in a market where transferring from one supplier to another is as simple as picking up the telephone. Economies of scale will matter, but size will not be everything – more important will be the creation of brands, such as Direct Line, fast becoming the Hoover of financial services.

So who are the winners and losers likely to be in this brave new world? Royal Bank of Scotland has an enormous head start through its own-

ership of Direct Line. Its commanding lead in motor insurance means that most people phoning around for a quote will give Direct Line a try first. The bank itself also has less to lose than some of its peers from the intensification of competition in financial markets as its staff and branch networks are relatively small.

TSB is likely to be another beneficiary, thanks to its heavier exposure to the lower socio-economic groups, which bring it more into competition with the building societies – they are much less further down the direct road

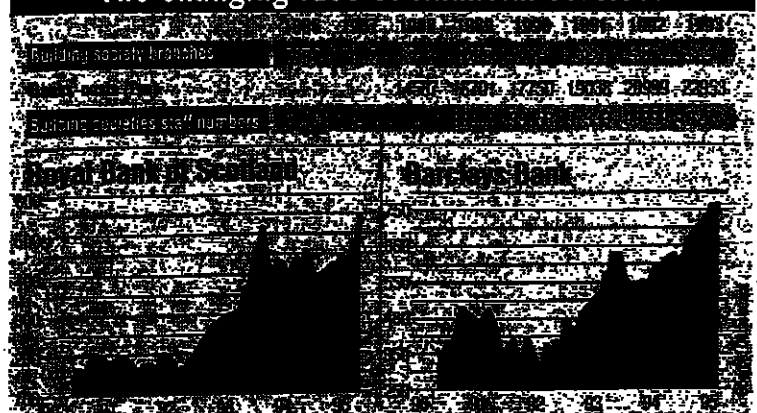
than the banks. HSBC, through its ownership of First Direct, also has a good foothold in telephone banking, which should act as a blueprint for expanding the service around its global network. Prospects are excellent.

At the other end of the scale, Lloyd's Abbey Life Insurance through its branches, so-called bancassurance, seems to be suffering from fewer people visiting their branches. Cheap distribution is not working as well as expected and is becoming more expensive now that the regulatory regime is getting tougher.

Commercial Union also looks at risk because of its currently highly profitable exposure to UK personal line insurance – 15 per cent of premiums and a useful £80m of underwriting profit in the first nine months of the year. The fast growth in direct sales elsewhere puts this income stream at risk.

The final doubtful stock is Barclays, which enjoys 30 per cent of the money transmission market and a similar slice of the personal loans segment. Given that exposure, it might have been expected that the bank would have moved into direct sales with a vengeance, but it has, in fact, only just entered the fray. Barclays faces the prospect of a significant loss of business to First Direct and others.

The changing face of financial services



INDEPENDENT TRAVEL OFFER

WINTER GOLF IN PORTUGAL

SEVEN NIGHTS FROM ONLY £299

DEPARTURES FROM NOVEMBER 1995 TO MARCH 1996

INCLUDES 4 ROUNDS OF GOLF

Send for your brochure today by telephoning

FESTIVE HOLIDAYS ON 0990 55 33 55

or return the coupon below to:

INDEPENDENT WINTER GOLF

TRAVEL OFFER,

FESTIVE HOLIDAYS LIMITED, ACORN HOUSE,

GREAT OAKS, BASILDON, ESSEX, SS14 1AB.

FOR AN IMMEDIATE BOOKING

TELEPHONE 01268 293311

Please forward me an itinerary and a booking form

Name (Mr/Ms/Ms)

Address

Post Code

Please tick the box if you do not wish to receive future mailings from

Independent Publishing plc or from companies approved by

Independent Publishing plc

IN7/92

INDEPENDENT

market report/shares

DATA BANK

FT-SE 100
3497.9 -21.7

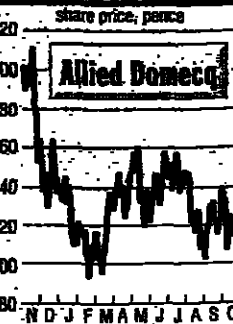
FT-SE 250
3864.3 -21.0

FT-SE 350
1740.8 -10.5

SEAQ VOLUME
615.6m shares,
25,703 bargains

Gifts Index
93.07 -0.28

SHARE SPOTLIGHT



Sinking peso poses new headaches for Allied Domecq

Allied Domecq's Mexican adventure continues to put its shares under pressure. At one time they were down 13p, closing off 7p at 510p, their lowest since March.

The spirit giant's hangover stems from last year's spectacular £700m takeover of Pedro Domecq, the Spanish sherry and brandy group which has a high profile in Mexico.

Shortly after the deal Mexico began to look less appealing, with the peso in ragged retreat amid increasing political unrest.

It is further peso weakness that has been contributing to New York's recent woe and reinforcing worries about Allied's Domecq acquisition.

Allied's year's figures are due next month. Some estimates have been pulled back sharply; the range is staggering, with a £558m low and a £672m high. The group has been re-shaping; it is selling its food op-

erations and is thought to be negotiating the sale of its brewing interests. But Julie Bower, drinks analyst with ABN-Amro Hoare Govett, suggested recently it should undertake a much more radical manoeuvre: disposing of its prized spirits division (Beehive gin and Teacher's Scotch whisky) to concentrate on retailing.

She suggested Allied should raise £5.2bn through asset sales, take on the Burger King fast food group from Grand Metropolitan, buy back 10 per cent of its shares and spend around £1bn on its retailing businesses. Such an exercise would, she believes, value Allied's shares, which have underperformed by more than 22 per cent since 1988, at around 670p. The expected appointment of Sir Christopher Hogg, who divided Courtaulds into chemicals and textiles, could, she believes, encourage the break-up.



MARKET REPORT

DEREK PAIN

Stock market reporter
of the year

The rest of the stock market was under the New York whip, although a transatlantic revival towards the close helped nullify the damage.

The FT-SE 100 index was at one time down 34.9 points; it closed 21.7 off at 3497.9. Trading, however, remained modest with many investors still prepared to sit on the sidelines.

Media shares were given a stir by the surprise Channel 5 award. Winners Pearson, up 10p to 635p, and MAI, 11p firmer at 323p, celebrated. But defeated Select TV, where bid talks are on, fell 3.75p to 30.75p and BSkyB 15p to 370p. The satellite television group was already reeling from the

Office of Fair Trading decision to block a distribution deal with Walt Disney. Granada, another disappointed candidate, lost 5p to 670p.

Hanson, long in the doldrums, perked up 2.75p to 196.75p; another of the unfashionable conglomerates, BTR, added 3p to 329p.

Asda, the supermarket chain, was the best-performing blue chip, up 2.5p to 102.5p. A NatWest Securities profits upgrade allowed it to shrug aside the threat of strike action.

The asbestos judgment had the predictable impact on T&N, down 12p to 148p. The shares have collapsed from 167p this week.

Chamberlain Phipps, a maker of shoe components, became the latest new-issue casualty, falling 35p to 93p on a profits warning. The shares were floated at 165p in August last year.

Hewlett-Packard, a windows group, gave up 18p to 42p after it drew attention to increasing raw material costs.

Insurer Legal & General lost some of its exuberance, falling 8p to 662p, in busy trading. Talk of a National Westminster strike next week - L&G or a fund manager - continued to circulate. NatWest fell 10p to 627p.

Cordiant, the old Saatchi & Saatchi, fell 7p to 84p after it confirmed a cash-raising exercise. Hunting, the aviation, defence and oil services group, held at 205p. It is meeting analysts next week to discuss its aircraft fittings and oil operations.

Bluebird, the toys group,

shaded 2p to 358p as chairman Torquill Norman said he had sold 650,000 shares.

Bakyrchik, developing a gold mine in the former Soviet Union, rose 16p to 153p. The group needs cash and is hoping to line up a partner. An overnight trade at 140p aroused hopes that a deal is near.

Friendly Hotels was little changed at 143p. Greg Midleton, the stockbroker, is looking for profits this year of £4.5m and £5.5m next.

Veteran hotelier Henry Edwards is chairman and Greig points out that management succession has still to be resolved. Mr Edwards and other directors have significant shareholdings and the possibility of a takeover cannot be ruled out. Before he created Friendly, which has assets approaching 300p a share, Mr Edwards established and then sold two hotel groups.

TAKING STOCK

Shares of Frost, the nation's fifth-largest petrol retailer, have fallen sharply this month on price-war fears. But Credit Lyonnais Laing rates them a buy and Frost's LRG petrol, which has run into criticism from the Petrol Retailers Association, has been given clearance by West Yorkshire's trading standards service. CLL believes profits will emerge at £11m this year. A few weeks ago the shares were nudging 250p; they rose 1p to 211p.

MAID, the on-line information business, is in the throes of a programme of nearly 30 investment presentations in the US, part of its campaign to raise \$50m by offering shares on the American Nasdaq market. The shares, 63p earlier this year, shaded 2p to 284p. They have risen strongly on the group's link with Microsoft.

BANKS, MERCHANT

Share	Price	Change
Bank of Scotland	100.00	+0.00
Barclays Bank	100.00	+0.00
HSBC	100.00	+0.00
London & Lancashire	100.00	+0.00
Manchester & Lancashire	100.00	+0.00
North British	100.00	+0.00
Paragon	100.00	+0.00
Royal Bank of Scotland	100.00	+0.00
Scottish Widows	100.00	+0.00
Westminster	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, MERCHANT

Share	Price	Change
Bank of Scotland	100.00	+0.00
Barclays Bank	100.00	+0.00
HSBC	100.00	+0.00
London & Lancashire	100.00	+0.00
Manchester & Lancashire	100.00	+0.00
North British	100.00	+0.00
Paragon	100.00	+0.00
Royal Bank of Scotland	100.00	+0.00
Scottish Widows	100.00	+0.00
Westminster	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, MERCHANT

Share	Price	Change
Bank of Scotland	100.00	+0.00
Barclays Bank	100.00	+0.00
HSBC	100.00	+0.00
London & Lancashire	100.00	+0.00
Manchester & Lancashire	100.00	+0.00
North British	100.00	+0.00
Paragon	100.00	+0.00
Royal Bank of Scotland	100.00	+0.00
Scottish Widows	100.00	+0.00
Westminster	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

BANKS, RETAIL

Share	Price	Change
ABN-Amro	100.00	+0.00

23
sport

OK, so he's saved us from bankruptcy, rebuilt the ground and made money available, but he doesn't love the club like us

Like taxes and an appearance on Noel Edmonds' House Party, it is probably something most of us would be happy to avoid: last Saturday I found myself watching Birmingham City against Grimsby Town.

I hasten to add I was at St Andrews for a purpose, to film a television report about relations between the local press and City's chairman David Sullivan (which make Michael Portillo's with Jacques Santier seem so affectionate you would assume an engagement was imminent).

But while there I happened upon something unexpected: I found that the rituals, the character, the behaviour of the Blues fans, while new to me, seemed totally familiar. So much so that I wondered if, across the country, the processes of football games have developed not separately but homogeneously.

Every Saturday (or Sunday or Monday evening) from Plymouth to Carlisle, we are all engaging in experiences not vaguely similar, but identical. This odd sense of déjà vu began before the game in a pub near the ground where Birmingham regulars gather.

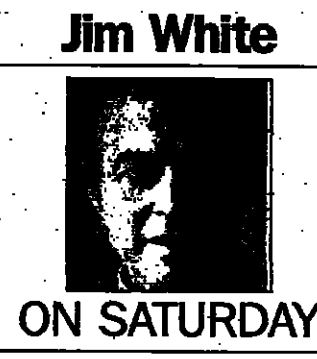
Here someone was seeking signatures for a petition against the chairman. The complaint was of some scheme charging fans a handling fee when buying tickets for away matches, but you got the feeling that the same type of fan was offering around the same type of anti-chair petition in pubs throughout the land (with the possible exception of Blackburn). And about as likely to achieve anything from it.

"I mean, what's Sullivan really done for this club?" one of the protesters said, sounding like the John Cleese character in *The Life of*

Brian. "OK, he's saved us from bankruptcy, rebuilt the ground, brought in Barry Fry and made money available for players, and, you know, we are grateful to him for that. But, ultimately, he doesn't love the club like we do. Really, he's only interested in one thing: our money."

If the chairmanships of football clubs were decided by democratic process, Birmingham would not be the only place where, given the choice of a sharp operator with £10m to invest or a local with unimpeachable affection for the club and 25p in his pocket, fans would invariably choose the latter.

But then, if there wasn't a chairman to complain about, what would they write in the fanzines? In *City's The Heavens*, Sullivan was upbraided for, among other things, charging too much for the sponsorship of individual players' kit. At West



ON SATURDAY

Brom, ran the gist of the complaint, it cost less, thus there were fewer embarrassing gaps in the *Baggies* programme (City's Ricky Otto, for instance, presently has no-one sponsoring any item of his work-wear, although Karren Brady, Sullivan's managing director, innovatively

turns a bob for the cause by accepting sponsorship for her briefcase).

As at many a club, such nuances of merchandising occupy much of the organisation's energy. Up in the stands at St Andrews' (new cantilever structures affording perfect views but identical to those at two dozen other grounds) early arrivals can scan the match programme.

At £1.50, this is little more than a catalogue for club wares: here's Kevin Francis revealing that his favourite piece of merchandising is the new training sweat top; there's Paul 'Fat' in the new black and white striped 'Cup Kit', adult sizes £35; and everywhere is David Sullivan signing himself 'yours in sport' and urging fans to bequeath more of their hard-earned cash to 'help the development of this club we all love'.

On one page he writes an open letter asking supporters not to buy

unofficial merchandise from street traders. "Scum" he calls them, which, coming from the publisher of *Sunday Sport*, proves that no matter which part of the gutter you draw your own livelihood from, you can comfort yourself that there must be someone mining the seams below.

Once the sideshow on the pitch finally got under way, the feeling of universality became even more overwhelming. It all seemed so familiar: the home-crowd hate-figure (the unsponsored Ricky Otto) whose every poor touch sent the middle-aged man in front of me to his feet into a fury; the way the only moment of vision in the game (a beautiful drag-back by Grimsby's Italian, Ivano Bonetti) was immediately punished by an assault on the creator's hamstring by a shaven-headed defender; and the way the referee booked the victim for reacting

angrily and his assailant escaped without so much as a lecture.

Also the way after the game, the visiting manager, as if scripted by Alan Ball, prefaced his vituperative remarks about said ref with the phrase "with respect".

But the thing which clinched it was the manner in which, with 10 minutes to go and Birmingham only just in control, the predominant sound was the apologetic mumble of the 4.35 "excuse me". The procession of early departures shuffling towards a quick getaway was such that by the time the best goal of the game thundered into Grimsby's net, the stands were so full of fans they resembled an eight-year-old's smile. And this is what makes us fans ultimately the same wherever we watch our football: nowhere in the land is there a crowd capable of lasting the full 90 minutes.

RUGBY LEAGUE CENTENARY WORLD CUP FINAL: England's key player has to plot downfall of the best defence in the game

Goulding the model motivator

The old hell-raiser who leads the Saints has a vital role to play if Australia are to be dethroned. Dave Hadfield reports

Bobbie Goulding has turned over more leaves than a force 10 gale blowing down an autumn lane. Rugby league's most frequently reformed player has even gone as far as changing what might be construed as a bad name.

He now insists that his first name should be rendered not as in Bobby Charlton, but as in Bobby Gentry, whose Billy Joe McAllister jumped off the Talarahatchie Bridge. It is on the side of his sponsored car, so it must be right.

Goulding's crisis of identity has sometimes taken more serious forms. At an age where he should still have been settling into the game, he was already at his fourth club, his departure from one of his previous ones having involved a walk along the roof of his coach's car.

The scrapes were numerous - and usually with a glass or two of beer implicated. Coaches used to blanch at the prospect of newcomers striking up a friendship with him. It has long been recognised that nobody would have put up with him in his younger days if he had not been such a gifted rugby player.

Now, of course, he is a changed person; a family man and captain of his current side at St Helens. The things that have remained unchanged are the talent and self-confidence. The latter is strong enough to have convinced him that, Shaun Edwards or no Shaun Edwards, he would be the scrum-half picked for last Saturday's semi-final against Wales and for the final against Australia today.

Now Edwards - the reason he left his first club, Wigan - is out of the equation. Goulding is pivotal to England's chances at Wembley this afternoon.

"I never had any doubts I was going to play," he says. "I'm sorry for Shaun, the way we all are, but with the form I've shown I didn't think there was any way Phil Larder could leave me out in any case. He has said all along that he would pick the players in form and he has stuck to it."

Goulding has happy memories of his last trip to Wembley, when he came on as a tactical substitute after Edwards' sending off and was instrumental in setting up Great Britain's win over Australia in the first Test last year. As he recognises, however, there is a difference between making a sudden impact in a fluid situation like that and exerting an influence for a full 80 minutes today.

In an ideal world Larder would have liked to keep the Australians guessing about his scrum-half until this afternoon. All the signs are that they are, rightly or wrongly, more worried about fiasco.

"I attack the line - and that's what they don't like," he says. "That's my game, running at the defence. If I can put a player through a gap, I will, but if I see a gap myself I'll go."

England's driving force: Bobbie Goulding. "I didn't think there was any way I could be left out"

cult today to make his party piece click in its usual way.

If there has ever been a rugby league move which has paid off with as much regularity as Goulding's cross-kick to his wingers, records of it have been lost in the mists of time.

Such is Goulding's precision with that kick that he struggles to think of an instance where it has not yielded a try or, at worst, forced the opposition to put the ball dead for a drop-out which

return's possession to his side.

"But I think," he chuckles, "that the Australians are a bit too chued-up for it. I can't see them falling for it."

That probably means that he will try it in the first minute and that it will produce a try - that would be a very Goulding thing to do.

For all his scrapes and misadventures, it is impossible not to like Bobbie Goulding. There is an openness and - off the field

at least - a lack of guile about him that is endlessly refreshing. His greater maturity saw him appointed captain at St Helens this season. He is undeniably calmer, less easy to wind-up, than he was earlier in his career - and that is something that could be an important factor to do.

There is even a suggestion of the elder statesman about him off the field. A few weeks ago, the Australian, Julian O'Neill,



England's driving force: Bobbie Goulding. "I didn't think there was any way I could be left out"

Robinson is set to make the running

John Monie, the former Wigan coach, talks to Dave Hadfield about tactical plays that could win the World Cup

Few have a better or more practised eye for a match-winning play than John Monie, the Australian who coached Parramatta to the Winesford Cup and Wigan to every trophy in the British game during his four years with them.

It was a technique that has frequently been a game-breaker for Goulding for club and country, but Monie, who also coached him at Wigan, believes he will have more difficulty making it pay off against a well-organised Australian defence today.

"This is a move that was introduced in Australia by the Brisbane Broncos and picked up by a lot of clubs after that," he says.

"Goulding is very accurate with it and always puts it in the danger zone, as he did twice for Martin Offiah in the semi-final against Wales. It's a very tough call for the referee to give it as offside, because he is a long way from the receiver and has to rely on help from his touch-judges."

"It was noticeable, though, that Manly and the Sydney Bulldogs in the Grand Final both stretched their defences to cover the width of the field in their own quarter."

"Bob Fulton is an adaptable coach and I'm sure he'll be doing the same today."

Like everyone else who knows his true capabilities, Monie has remarked on Offiah's lack of his usual pace and confidence during this World Cup. "If there are going to be running chances for the wingers, England would be better off with them going to Jason Robinson, who has been the outstanding winger in the tournament," he says.

"Jason is at his most effective coming off his wing and working tight to the centre of the

field, where the speed of his footwork can throw the defence off balance."

It is from broken play, rather than from conventional movement of the ball along the backline, that Robinson will be his damage, Monie says. "If Lee Jackson makes ground from acting half-back and someone else carries it on, Jason will be there and, once he is away, no one will catch him."

It worked spectacularly for Wigan against Leeds in the Challenge Cup final in April - and there is no reason why it could not work again today.

"The most impressive thing about Australia, though, is their defence," says Monie. "To break them down, you have to take some risks."

The trouble with that is that giving them too much possession invites the Australians to do what they do best, exerting a cumulative pressure that gives their captain, Brad Fittler, the opportunity to put men into gaps.

The most effective move Australia have put on is when Fittler runs the ball to one side of the ruck, pulls in the defence and switches the ball back to the other side," says Monie.

"The more always seems to pick up on that move is Steve Menzies, who is the best running forward in the game from that situation."

Several of Menzies' tournament-leading six tries so far have come from just that play. The key to defeating it is for players to resist the temptation to cluster around Fittler, which can be easier said than done.

If England can keep Menzies at bay, they could still face problems at the play-the-ball later in the game, Monie predicts.

"When players start to get tired, Geoff Toovey starts to make ground down the middle," he says.

"Even when he gets tackled, the ruck can be set up quickly whilst the defence is still going backwards and Australia will be on a roll."

WEEKEND FIXTURE GUIDE

TODAY

Football
FA Cup
1.0 unless stated
FA WADKILL CONFERENCE
Altrincham v Dover
2.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0
3.0

sport

FOOTBALL: The creative tyro who got left behind talks to Glenn Moore about the debt he owes Bolton managers past and present

Stubbs learning the rules of pass and move

This summer Alan Stubbs appeared to be a footballer whose time had come. He was a promising creative defender at a moment when the English game was finally grasping the need to have "starters", as well as "stoppers", at the core of their teams.

Three months on that need is even more acute. While Ruud Gullit demonstrates how it should be done in the domestic game, Terry Venables is struggling to teach his defenders to "step into midfield" in the international one. In Europe our champions are exposed as an anachronistic embarrassment.

But for Stubbs time is standing still. His well-publicised desire for a move has not been fulfilled. Instead he remains at Bolton, attempting to shield a defence which has yet to keep a clean sheet in the Premiership.

On Monday Bolton meet Arsenal in a televised match which is loaded with poignancy. Arsenal are now managed by Bruce Rioch, the man who guided Bolton from the Second Division to the Premiership and developed Stubbs into a player of note.

During the summer it was widely assumed that Rioch would return to Burnley Park to prise away both Stubbs and Jason McAteer, the other tyro behind Wanderers' rise.

Instead Rioch left his old club alone and Stubbs was lined up to move to Blackburn in a joint deal with McAteer. Then McAteer moved to Liverpool, and Stubbs was left at Burnley Park. His desire to leave had not gone down well with supporters who booed him. Nor did the transfer speculation please the club, who briefly dropped him to clear his mind.

Stubbs is now back in the side, but playing as a midfield anchor in front of the back four. It is a position in which he is likely to encounter the deep-lying Dennis Bergkamp on Monday night.

"I am there to help the team," he said at a hotel near his Liverpool home this week. "But I do not want to be there permanently. As long as I feel I am doing okay I do not mind, it will help my game. But if my form started to dip I would have to go in and see about returning to centre-half."

With Bolton having taken one point from 15, Roy McFarland and Colin Todd, the managerial team, moved Stubbs into midfield for a tricky Coca-Cola



The outlook at Burnley Park, down in the Premiership's basement, is not a rosy one but Alan Stubbs remains optimistic for the future

Photograph: Victoria Matthews

Cup tie at Brentford. Bolton won 2-2 and have since come within five minutes of beating Everton and seconds from drawing at Nottingham Forest.

"They want me to give a bit more strength to the back four and help start things. They want me to have the ball all the time. If I am going to play well I need to have the ball all the time. They want me to mix up my game, to play a lot of short balls and long balls when I see them."

Against Leicester in the Coca-Cola Cup on Tuesday night Stubbs certainly got plenty of the ball. He made a staggering 50 passes, only six of which failed to find their man or win a throw-in. Most of the wayward passes were also the ambitious ones - keeping possession was not a problem for Stubbs, opening up a deep and organized Leicester defence was more difficult. It was the

sort of game Barry Venison played for Newcastle and England last season, but Bolton did not have a Peter Beardsley.

Even so, Stubbs' desire for the ball is unusual among defenders, as is his passing ability and control. No surprise, then, to discover he is a late convert to the black art of defence.

"I played in midfield when I first came to the club. As a kid I used to imagine I was Glenn Hoddle, he had such great touch, awareness and vision. But I also admired Alan Hansen and, after about three years of playing in both positions with Bolton, I settled at centre-half. I think that is my best position."

Stubbs, who was 24 this month, started on the left-wing as a boy, playing with the Kirkby under-11s as a nine-year-old. With that background, and his influences, it is easier to see why he has become an unusually

adept defender. However, his youthful promise would not have been realised if he had not been fortunate in his managers, first Phil Neal, then Rioch, Todd and McFarland.

Neal was Bolton's manager when Stubbs broke into the

over and soon moved Stubbs into the back four for good (until now). "All the time he would say to me 'get the ball and start the attacks. If there is space ahead of you - go into it, do not just pass it, take it into the space first'. Stubbs did this twice against

will go a long way if you keep playing the way you do". That was a massive influence on me, he had such a big compliment.

"For years most managers wanted defenders to just defend but more and more now want defenders to play from the back and start attacks. That is good for me because that is the way I play. More young players are playing from the back. That is good for the game. If you look at the Italians they have centre-halves who can play centre-forward and vice-versa."

Stubbs has seen Rioch once this season, at Bolton's match at Villa Park. "At the time there was a lot of speculation about me going to Arsenal, so I did not really talk to him in case people made something of it. I just shook his hand and said: 'How are you?'. He said to me: 'Keep playing'."

'If we had had a manager who just wanted me to boot it you would not see me doing the things I do now'

then-Third Division side in 1990. "He was the first manager to ask me to play centre-half. He always encouraged us to play football and that was a blessing. If we had had a manager who just wanted me to boot it, you would not see me doing the things I do now."

Two years later Rioch took

Leicester - who left very little space anywhere. On one occasion he drew the defender before feeding John McGinlay, on the other he had a shot himself.

Rioch's partner, Todd, was equally influential. "There was one occasion when he pulled me aside and said: 'Never change your style of play. You

Robson's proud return to familiar territory

Glenn Moore on the Premiership weekend ahead

Whyte means the central defensive trio of Steve Vickers, Whyte and Nigel Pearson is being broken up for the first time in the Premiership.

They have only been separated for two Coca-Cola Cup ties, and the omens are not good. In the first they conceded a goal to Rotherham, in the second, on Wednesday, Crystal Palace scored twice in the first 10 minutes and could easily have had more. Phil Whelan replaces Whyte - and finally starts a game for Boro - seven months after joining them moments too late on transfer deadline day.

Barnby is equally important. All but two of Boro's Premiership goals - both penalties - have been scored or made by the England striker. His raiding partner, Craig Hignett, is becoming almost as influential with six goals, including the last three in the League. A timely treble, given that he is regarded as the most likely sacrifice for Juninho. However, Hignett is

doubtful after being injured against Palace. If he plays he will be one of only four Boro survivors from their last trip to Old Trafford three seasons ago. Then they lost 3-0 on the way to being relegated. It was not one of Robson's 457 United appearances - he was injured.

Relegation is something with which Manchester City are becoming increasingly more concerned, and Alan Ball's side must be wondering when their fortunes will improve. An impressive two-goal success for City against Liverpool would lift them off the bottom - Bolton do not play until Monday. Having lost 4-0 at Anfield in midweek they will not be travelling with any optimism, however. Liverpool will go third if they win.

The leaders, Newcastle, have also been stolen from the Saturday programme by television but, whatever happens today, they will be top going into tomorrow's match at Tottenham. It is an opportunity for Les Ferdinand to demonstrate his continued progress to his mentor, Gerry Francis. Francis will be hoping his new protégé, Chris Armstrong, can show why he regards him as Ferdy Mark II.

Burns applauds Aitken

The Celtic manager Tommy Burns, yesterday applauded the achievements of his former team-mate, Roy Aitken, at Aberdeen this season prior to today's meeting at Parkhead.

The Dons reached their first final in three seasons on Tuesday when they beat Rangers in

the Coca-Cola Cup semi-finals. "I have nothing but admiration for the job which Roy and Tommy Craig are doing," said Burns, who was Aitken's colleague at Parkhead in the 1980s. Roy took over at a very difficult time, but I didn't have any doubts at all that he would turn it around."

Ball declines Hagi deal but signs Spaniard

The Premiership strugglers Manchester City have taken the Barcelona striker, Thomas Christiansen, on loan after turning down a similar offer which would have also seen the Romanian, George Hagi, at Manchester City.

City moved for Christiansen, whom they have an option to buy for £500,000, after a recommendation by Barcelona's coach, Johan Cruyff, who is a close friend of Alan Ball - but the City manager was unable to take up an offer regarding Hagi because they could not afford the midfielder's wages, said to be around £12,000 a week.

Dan Petrescu's £2.6m transfer from Sheffield Wednesday to Chelsea is in danger of collapsing because of conflicting medical opinions on the player. According to Wednesday, Chelsea are trying to renegotiate the transfer at a lower price.

Everton are prepared to sell Anders Limpar, who has been linked with a return to Arsenal, for £2m. Meanwhile, John Hartes has been cleared to join West Ham on loan from the United States Soccer Federation and he will play against his former club, Sheffield Wednesday, at Hillsborough today.

final
if at first you
succeed
try, try, try again



the rugby league
world cup

only on TV
tonight from 7.30pm

Yeboah is streets ahead. Only Gary McAllister is in the same galaxy, albeit travelling at a considerably lesser speed

The times they are a changing at Elland Road. No more chants about Munich, no more monkey noises at opposing black players and no more too pokes from three yards, either on or off the pitch.

Leeds have a new hero and he is cut from different cloth. Not in any Revie or Wilkinson mould, Tony "The Predator" Yeboah is fit to grace any side, plays to no pattern other than his own, and has achieved a cult following greater than that of Eric the Red during his all-too-brief stay.

Yeboah is streets ahead of almost everything else in a white shirt. How can this magician work off balls from

workaday professionals like Nigel Worthington, Paul Beesley or David White? Only Gary McAllister is in the same galaxy, albeit travelling at a considerably lesser speed.

And we got him for only £3.4m. That's more than good business, although it will take a few more Yeboahs to rid the bitter taste of losing Cantona for £1m to Manchester United, handing them two titles.

Since Leeds came of age in the early 1960s, they have prided themselves on hard men, players who could grind out a 0-0 draw. Stoppers they were euphemistically called in Revie's day, but the football world outside Leeds described

Hunter, Giles, Bremner, Reaney and Charlton in less fanciful terms. Eddie Gray, Peter Lorimer and Allan Clarke? OK, but the heart of the team was that defence and that midfield, directed by Don Revie.

In that tradition the 1992 championship side, Cantona apart, wanted for fair. While the other United turned sides inside out with the likes of Sharpe, Giggs and Hughes, Leeds relied on

crossing and heading to get their points. But Mel Stead and Lee Chapman's exploits hardly pointed to future Euro glories - and so it proved.

When the good times came around again, there was something disconcertingly Revie-like about Wilkinson. He was thorough, stressed fitness and you could see him handing out dossiers on opposing players on Tuesday nights. Realis-

tic in defeat and humble in victory, dour appeared to be his middle name. But appearances deceive and, as Leeds' championship campaign floundered in the spring of 1992, Wilkinson swooped for the Frenchman. The title was duly won.

In January this year, smacking from Brian Deane's lack of confidence and goals, Wilko struck lucky again, snapping up Yeboah from Eintracht Frankfurt before others had realised he was available. And then in August came the news everyone was waiting for - he was staying.

Cue goals from another planet. He nearly broke the net against West Ham on the open-

ing day, won goal of the month with his strike against Liverpool, scored a hat-trick in Europe against Monaco, and added a domestic treble at Wimbledon including a strike from heaven conjured from nothing. At home he hit the net with a similarly spectacular strike for the adoring Elland Road faithful against Sheffield Wednesday for his 23rd goal in 28 games.

Leeds fans no longer cheer their team on to the field; they acclaim a new god - and at the end of the game the 10 others race for the tunnel while the Ghanaian takes his bow.

There is no such thing as a one-man team, we were told at school. Do you want to bet?

That includes the criticism he received from supporters. "A lot of them would make the same decision if they were in my shoes - but if I was in theirs I would probably react as they did. It was only a few but you would be surprised how many things you can hear when you are on the pitch. I had a lot of great letters asking me to stay - but wishing me all the best in the future if I do not. It was nice to get them because it was not the best of times."

"With the Blackburn deal it was always both or none. Once Jason heard Liverpool were interested it was just a matter of time. It was his boyhood dream, you cannot stop someone - it would have been like Everton coming in for me."

"He had come out of the meeting at Blackburn and said: 'It sounds good' but I thought he was in awe of Kenny Dalglish. Kenny is God to Jason because of what he has done at Liverpool. "He asked me: 'What should I do?' and I said to him: 'Jason, you have got to go. If you do not sign for Liverpool it would be the biggest regret of your life.'"

"A lot of people have said to me: 'Do you still talk to Jason?' They think it was his fault I have not left. But I do not look at it like that. Jason and I are still best mates - we were room-mates for years. He is on the phone to me every other day."

They must be interesting calls. Stubbs, who grew up in "a rough part" makes a point of staying close to his old friends, even though the differences in status and income - some of my mates are not working - could make it difficult.

This time Stubbs is the one without. While McAteer chases titles and European glory, Stubbs is fighting relegation. There is one consolation. As he said: "At least a lot of people will be able to see how I defend this year."

TEAM NEWS

Aston Villa v Everton
Villa will give Billy Davies the go-ahead to sign a new striker. Brian Deane is still in the squad. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game. Striker Dalglish will miss the game. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

Blackburn Rovers v Chelsea
Bolton manager Roy Keane is expected to start. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

Leeds United v Coventry
Leeds will give Billy Davies the go-ahead to sign a new striker. Brian Deane is still in the squad. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

Liverpool v Manchester City
Liverpool will give Billy Davies the go-ahead to sign a new striker. Brian Deane is still in the squad. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

Manchester United v Tottenham
Manchester United will give Billy Davies the go-ahead to sign a new striker. Brian Deane is still in the squad. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

Sheff Wed v West Ham
Sheff Wed will give Billy Davies the go-ahead to sign a new striker. Brian Deane is still in the squad. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

Sheff Wed v West Ham
Sheff Wed will give Billy Davies the go-ahead to sign a new striker. Brian Deane is still in the squad. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

Sheff Wed v West Ham
Sheff Wed will give Billy Davies the go-ahead to sign a new striker. Brian Deane is still in the squad. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

Sheff Wed v West Ham
Sheff Wed will give Billy Davies the go-ahead to sign a new striker. Brian Deane is still in the squad. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

QPR v Nottingham Forest
QPR will give Billy Davies the go-ahead to sign a new striker. Brian Deane is still in the squad. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

Sheff Wed v West Ham
Sheff Wed will give Billy Davies the go-ahead to sign a new striker. Brian Deane is still in the squad. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

Sheff Wed v West Ham
Sheff Wed will give Billy Davies the go-ahead to sign a new striker. Brian Deane is still in the squad. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

Sheff Wed v West Ham
Sheff Wed will give Billy Davies the go-ahead to sign a new striker. Brian Deane is still in the squad. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

Sheff Wed v West Ham
Sheff Wed will give Billy Davies the go-ahead to sign a new striker. Brian Deane is still in the squad. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

Sheff Wed v West Ham
Sheff Wed will give Billy Davies the go-ahead to sign a new striker. Brian Deane is still in the squad. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

Sheff Wed v West Ham
Sheff Wed will give Billy Davies the go-ahead to sign a new striker. Brian Deane is still in the squad. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

Sheff Wed v West Ham
Sheff Wed will give Billy Davies the go-ahead to sign a new striker. Brian Deane is still in the squad. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

Sheff Wed v West Ham
Sheff Wed will give Billy Davies the go-ahead to sign a new striker. Brian Deane is still in the squad. Striker Dalglish is ruled out again. Striker Dalglish will miss the game.

Connolly returns as England gamble

"Gary will start the game and we hope to get at least 50 minutes out of him," Larder said.

It was the one match a British side has lost to Australia at Wembley since international rugby league went back there, and it was lost because the British game-plan was predicated on not making a single defensive mistake for 80 minutes.

Just as important has been how well the front row has functioned. When Karl Harrison, Lee Jackson and Andy Platt have been together, they have hardly put a foot wrong. And while

Today could even be the day when Martin Offiah rediscovers his confidence. Even without him at his best, Jason Robinson and Paul Newlove rank as two of the world's most dangerous attackers and Kris Radlinski has been a revelation at full-back.

For any coach other than Bob Fulton, the tournament would have been full of unwelcome distractions, beginning with his tireless advocacy of the ARL versus Super League, continuing with his obligatory complaint over refereeing and the controversy over what he, and his

If they keep their heads there and Australia lose theirs the way they did against New Zealand, the League will have to pay a promised £250,000 bonus to England, but will save on air freight costs. The trophy will not be flying out.

ENGLAND v AUSTRALIA

at Wembley

Kris Radford	Wigan	1	Tim Brasher	Sydney Tigers
Jason Robinson	Wigan	2	Rod Wilshaw	Ilkeston
Gary Connolly	Wigan	3	Mark Goyne	St George's
Paul Newlove	Bradford Bulls	4	Terry Hill	Mansfield
Marion Offiah	Wigan	5	Brett Dallas	Sydney Bulldogs
Tony Smith	Castleford	6	Brad Pittber	Penrith, capt
Bobbie Goulding	St Helens	7	Geoff Toovey	Mansfield
Karl Harrison	Hull FC	8	Dwan Peel	Sydney Bulldogs
Lee Jackson	Newcastle Knights	9	Andrew Johns	Newcastle K's
Andy Platt	Auckland	10	Mark Carroll	Mansfield
Dennis Bates	Auckland, capt	11	Steve Menzies	Mansfield
Phil Clarke	Sydney City	12	Gary Larson	North Sydney
Andy Farrell	Wigan	13	Jim Dymock	Sydney Bulldogs

Substitutes: Mick Phelan (Wigan),
 Brian Matthews (Wigan), Mick
 Castleford (Wigan), Chris Joyce St
 Helens

Referee: Stuart Cummings (Widnes)

Scorecards: Robbie O'Davis,
 Australia; Rod Newcombe
 (Wigan), Jason Smith (Sydney)
 Bulldogs, Nik Kosev (Mansfield)

Kick-off: 2.50pm BBC1

JAMES ALEXANDER
reports from Soweto
England 285-7 v
South African Invitation XI

Mandela, who walked across the outfield during a drinks break to greet the players, had a special word for Devon Malcolm: "Ah, I know you. You are the destroyer." He then thanked the fast bowler for encouraging black children and

[illegible]

JOHN ROBERTS
reports from Essex

Sampras certainly considered himself lucky to have recovered from 0-5 in a shoot-out for the first time in his career. "The thought of a third set had come into my mind," he said.

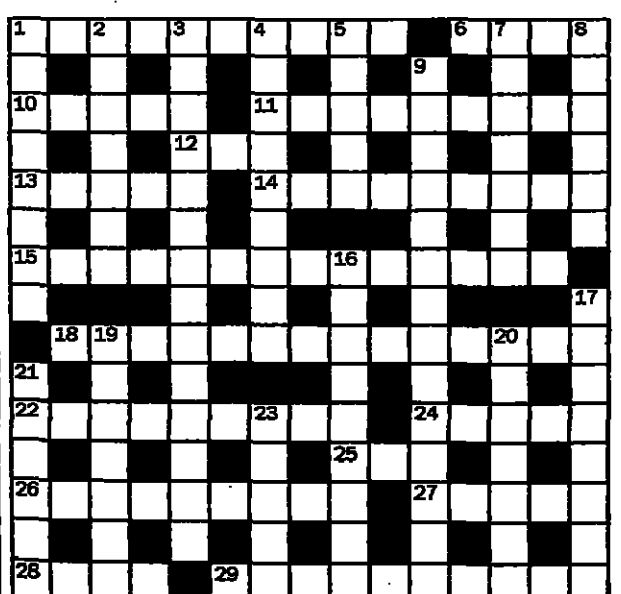
Boris Becker may miss next week's Paris indoor tournament because of back injury. After pulling out of the doubles yesterday, the German said he would decide about the French event after seeing a doctor.

Results. Sporting Direct page 27

Seiko Kinetic®. The first and only watch that generates its own energy from your every movement. The perpetual security of quartz—naturally, without a battery. Its tiny powerhouse converts even your slightest movement into electrical impulses. Ecologically sound and ultimately reliable. Seiko Kinetic is so efficient that you only need to wear it for one day to ensure enough energy reserves to last at least a week. Wear it continually and it will never let you down. It's built to last. **Someday all watches will be made this way.**

SEIKO
KINETICS

By Spangius



The first five correct solutions to this week's puzzle opened next Thursday receive hardbacked copies of the excellent Chambers Biographical Dictionary, worth £35. Answers and winners' names will be published next Saturday. Send solutions to Saturday Crossword, P.O. Box 4018, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5BL. Please use the box number and postcode. Last week's winners were: Ann & Aubrey Morley, Sherborne; George Roberts, Gwynedd; Simon Myers, Lancashire; G Garton, Chipping Norton; John Fielding, Chalfont.

DOWN

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|
| 1 | Garment found in someone's digs? (6,4) | 1 | Church feature constructed in ten parts (9) |
| 6 | Exotic bird is seen around British Isles (4) | 1 | Alcohol specially distilled in an hotel? (7) |
| 10 | Remove item from wash, ensuring it's white (9) | 2 | Series of contested deeds apt to shorten? (5) |
| 11 | Free, perhaps, unlike positive electrons? (9) | 4 | Reducing numbers making aristocrat depressed (9) |
| 12 | Trigonometrical value shown in colour (3) | 5 | Racecourse by rocky coast? (5) |
| 13 | Means of diagnosing deep-seated problems (5) | 7 | Infection carried by animal is a nuisance (7) |
| 14 | French conversation (4,1-4) | 8 | Fleeting Norse sages make people gloomy (6) |
| 15 | Those concerned with Criminal Justice Bill, nominally (6,8) | 9 | Electric weighing machine? It's sometimes useful as a check (7,2,5) |
| 18 | The CO is poison! (6,8) | 16 | Sounds of progress, when it's suggested one should pay for light? (9) |
| 22 | Panic - flu's disrupted football matches (3,6) | 17 | Drink dispenser of French Canadian located on terrace (8) |
| 23 | Culpture produced by a couple of Greek characters (5) | 19 | Instrument most apt for interrupting prayer (7) |
| 25 | Morocco, implement has end broken off (3) | 20 | Pointed implement used with sweet selection? (3,4) |
| 26 | Marching with a slow-moving party? (9) | 21 | Escapee involving fiddle (6) |
| 27 | Card game sometimes started in holiday (5) | 23 | As Mexican interprets gringo's "oppo"? Primarily (5) |
| 28 | Calm might give poetic expression (4) | | |
| 29 | The not-out batsman? (3-7) | | |

Last Saturday's solution

S	E	L	E	C	T		O	R	A	C	L	E
A	N	O	R	S		A	H	M	N	R	V	E
N	O	S	K	I	N	O	F	F	M	Y	N	O
I	I	T	M	R	R		R	M	S	N	L	
I	T	I	N	G		T	R	A	V	E	R	S
Y	G		I	I	S						Q	Y
		C	H	A	S	T		D	E	T	O	U
	A	P							E	E		
	S	N	A	I	L	S						
H	E	D	N	O		E	T				T	C
	E	A	S	T	E	R	N		B	R	I	E
A	P	E	C	L	A		M	O		O	A	
	P	R	O	T	E	C	T	I	O	N		
E	W	S		A	N	B	E		E	O		
	D	A	N	I	S			L	E	A	D	E

Crossword

S	T	R	E	C	R	U
E	N	G	I	N	E	R
O	N	P	E	R	A	G
S	W	O	T	A	B	S
F	I	I	F	T	I	R
C	A	R	E	E	R	S
L	X	E	R	E	I	T
L	E	A	D	E	R	V
A	B	S	E	N	T	E
P	R	E	M	E	I	N
P	R	E	S	I	D	E
S	E	E	N	E	R	L
S	E	E	N	E	R	L

Football

When the League's management committee failed to reach agreement on the near-£120m five-year offer before the designated deadline, the FA improved its offer by handing about £21m of marketing rights back to the clubs.

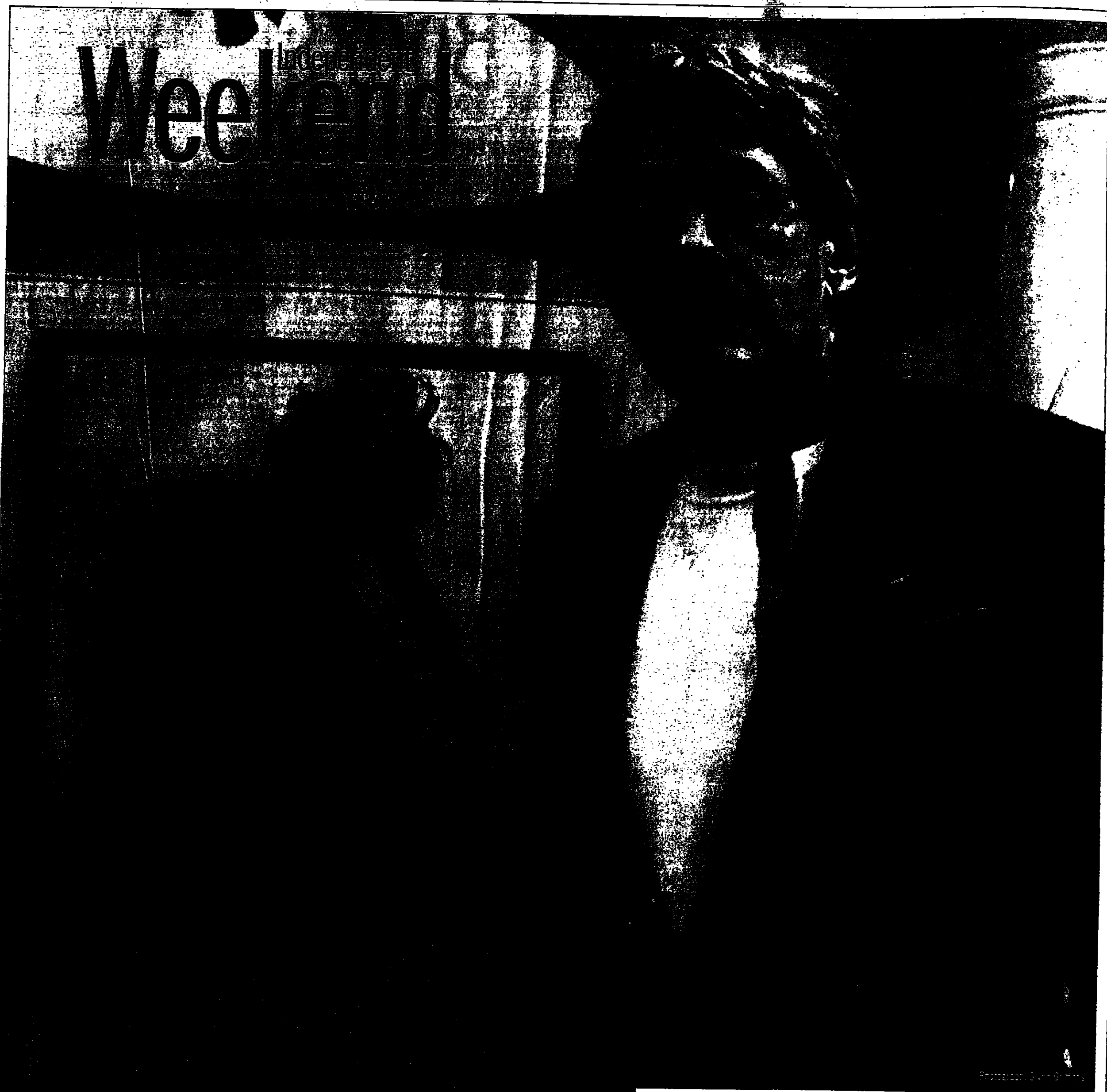
The League had wanted more time to consider an alternative partnership proposed by the Premier League after a threatened revolt of the smaller clubs.

Published by Newspaper Publishing
PLC, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf,
London E14 5DL, and printed at Mirror
Colour Print, St Albans Road, Wanford
and Hollisdon Avenue, Oldham

Saturday 28 October 1985

Registered as a newspaper with the Post Office

Weekend



Photograph by David Laundy

INSIDE STORIES

The things Kingsley Amis tried to avoid – women, being left alone at night, travelling alone – suggest an infantile dependency he was never able to overcome

'Ooh, that's nasty. That's a nasty call, see. If you go out there now he'll challenge you.' Johnny wants to get closer for a better shot. Two red deer stags are in his sights

Sundays are going to be bereft of a certain swoon factor after tomorrow, and I'm not talking about the heavenly Mr Darcy. Nup. It's those colours on the walls

The great thing about an eclipse is you can be an amateur astro-tourist and still get a kick out of the instant sundown. We are all equal under the Moon's shadow

SPORTS	ARTS	TECH	THE RADIO
FEATURES 1-4	SCREENING 5	NEW FEATURES 15-16	TODAY'S TV 17
REVIEWS 4	COUNTRY 10	INVESTMENTS 11	SUNDAY 17
BOOKS 5-6	PROPERTY 11		WEEK AHEAD 17
	SHOPPING 11-12		
	GOING OUT 12-13		
	LISTEN 13-14		
	TRAVEL 14-15		
	VISITORS 15		



THE OCCASION FOR TAYLOR'S WAS ALWAYS SPECIAL



IT STILL IS

Whether you choose one of Taylor's classic declared vintages, or Taylor's Late Bottled Vintage, the occasion becomes something to remember. Both are made by the same winemaker, in the same way, from the same Estate's grapes, with the same care, dating back over 300 years.

TAYLOR'S PORT
ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST WINES

AN STUBBS:
...win in sh
gamble
...AND AUSTRALIA

Courier takes
his defeat
lying down

Good-bye
battery



SEIKO
KINETIC

Arts and Books

INDEPENDENT WEEKEND • SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER 1995



INSIDE STORIES

Riches to rags



What's wrong with Jolson?
page 4

Dickie Fantastic
Seeks protection
page 4

The old devil
Joan Smith and
Malcolm Bradbury
on the life and work
of Kingsley Amis
page 5

Not so special
Ian Fleming:
licensed to cheap
thrills
page 6

Nun like her
Mother Teresa
takes on her critics
page 7

There were angry scenes at the Tate Gallery last night after the art world's most prestigious award, the Turner Prize, had been conferred on David Shepherd, the popular depicor of elephants and steam-engines. To the sound of booing from gallery owners protesting on the steps outside Mr Shepherd defended his art. "I know that I work in an unconventional way," he said. "Those who think that art is just human blood, dead cows and endoscopic cameras may well be shocked by my exploration of the paint brush as a medium, but I think it's right that art should shake up our preconceptions." Nicholas Serota said he was dismayed but no longer surprised by the

This week, Sharon Stone received France's top artistic award, the Chevalier des Arts, for her services to world culture. This could be just the beginning...

reaction: "You would not get this anywhere but Britain," he said wearily. "David Shepherd explores ideas of species, consciousness and otherness. In these confrontations of the pachydermic with the human, sentiment is the shadow cast by primal fear." Asked whether he thought he was worth £20,000, Mr Shepherd replied: "Oh well, they have to give these things to someone. Personally I think it should have been Rolf."

Shock waves were still spreading in the literary world today after the announcement that Jeffrey Archer has won this year's Booker Prize, a consternation all the greater since his latest



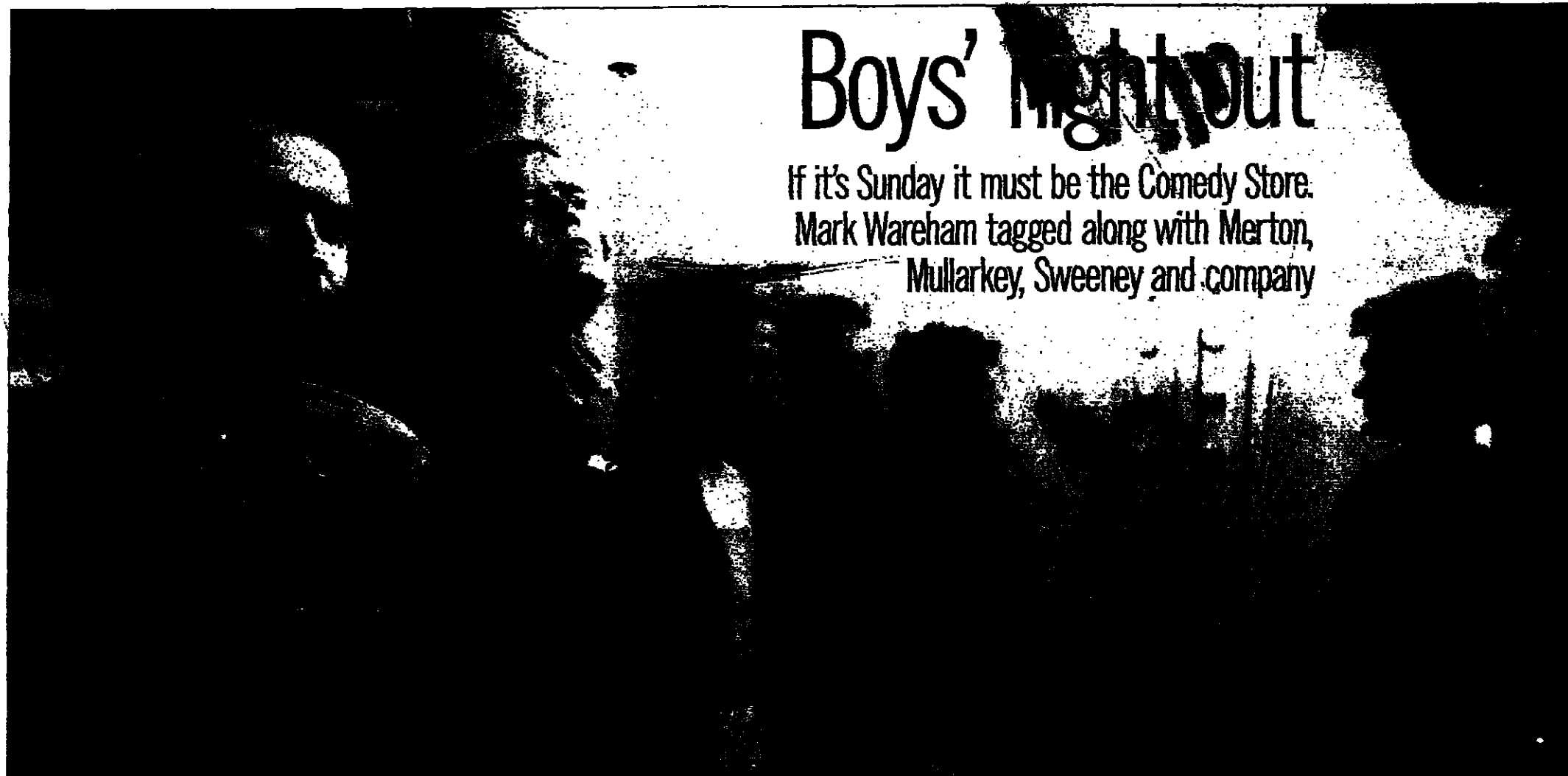
Tom Stoppard

novel *Adam and Yves* (a "prequel" to the bestseller *Kane and Abel*) had not featured on the short-list. After scenes of disturbance at the Guildhall, the Chairman of the Judges, Dame Iris Murdoch, defended her decision in a speech several times interrupted by angry shouts. Dame Iris said: "We understood when we came to this decision that it might lead to intellectual controversy but the panel of judges felt unanimously that it was time to make a clear statement on behalf of literary standards. Too often the award of the Booker Prize leads to a sterile, relativistic debate about the merits of an individual work, a debate mired in subjective bickering. As a result, we felt, the notion of universal standards of good and bad had become discredited. We wanted to recognize a work that would unite all those who care deeply about literature and quality. So this award is not just for *Adam and Yves*, but for the Archer corpus - books which have made it abundantly clear that literary merit is not just a matter of opinion." Asked to comment on the prize, Mr Archer said that he was "absolutely thrilled by this long overdue recognition. I hope certain gentlemen

in Stockholm have been paying attention."

A spokesman for the Campaign for Plain English has been defending the society today after the furore caused by the decision to honour Sylvester Stallone with a Special Commendation Medal, the campaign's highest honour. "There's been a lot of elitist nonsense talked about this," said Michael Dignole. "Mr Stallone clearly represents what we have been campaigning for for years. He never uses two words when one will do - indeed he often doesn't even use one if he can get away with a grunt." Mr Dignole explained that society members had first been impressed by the

simplicity of expression Mr Stallone gave to American foreign policy in the *Rambo* films, but that it had been felt that the political climate was not then right for a public award. "But several of us went to see *Judge Dredd*," he continued, "and we were very struck by the way in which the complex social issues of a post-industrial dystopia were condensed into the simple phrase 'I yam da law'. If only more people spoke with such clarity we might not be in the mess we are." When asked by one journalist if "post-industrial dystopia" was really plain English, Mr Dignole became heated and insisted that journalists substitute the phrase "lawless shit-hole" in all reports of his remarks.



Boys' Night Out

If it's Sunday it must be the Comedy Store.
Mark Wareham tagged along with Merton,
Mullarkey, Sweeney and company

Left to right: Lee Simpson, Paul Merton, Richard Vranich, Jim Sweeney, Neil Mullarkey and a kettle

Photo: Edward Sykes

Improvised comedy, impro, improv, call it what you will, there's no getting away from the image problem. It sucks. Earnest troupes of John Sessions wannabes stroking their beards as they pad out some elaborate scenario involving a surreal plumber singing a Pavarotti aria in a Guatemalan coconut plantation. Mighty clever, most definitely spontaneous, and as uproariously funny as a recital of the minutes from the Associated Ball-bearing Manufacturers' annual convention.

These are what the Comedy Store Players call the impro fundamentalists: actors, as opposed to comedians, who stick to the rules laid down in the impro scriptures on pain of death. "If you crack a gag on stage they issue a *fatwah*," says Jim Sweeney, as we board a packed train at Wimbledon Station one Sunday evening en route for the Comedy Store. The Players are, there's no denying, a troupe of impro devotees, but any comparison to other impro outfits living or (presumed) dead is considered an insult to their spiritual code - namely, to break the rules.

For 10 years now, the Comedy Store Players have been performing twice weekly to a cult following who used to regularly queue alongside Leicester Square for four hours to ensure prime seating. Ten years on, the queues are gone (telephone booking lines have been discovered), the Comedy Store has switched venues (the Players now have their own toilet), and the line-up for tomorrow night's 10th anniversary gig contains just one sole survivor from the original six members.

Plans to fly in ex-collaborators Mike Myers and Mike McShane were shelved when, according to Sweeney, "We decided not to make it a wham-bam showbiz thing." A decision entirely in keeping with the group's low-key approach (no manager, no agent), and their somewhat overworked reputation as "comedy's best-kept secret".

The current team boasts founder member Neil Mullarkey, Josie Lawrence, Paul Merton, Richard Vranich (the piano on *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*), Lee Simpson (formerly Terry in the Julian Clary vehicle *Terry and Julian*) and Jim Sweeney, formerly of impro duo Sweeney and Steen. The line-up is fixed on a semi-permanent basis, but invariably someone will drop out (Merton, for example, plays Sundays only), and so a pool of eager young pups stand by awaiting the call-up - the likes of, in the past, Eddie Izzard, Greg Proops, Rory Bremner, Tony Slattery, Caroline Quentin and (they know no shame) Nicholas Parsons.

An hour or so prior to showtime, and the Players are beginning to assemble. When Sweeney and I walk into the coffin-shaped dressing room, Vranich has already hopped off the number 38 from Islington, Merton and Simpson are discussing how best to get to Norfolk, and Mullarkey is in the toilet. Josie Lawrence will not be attending. "She is," says Sweeney, "lunvied up." Merton expands: "She's up in Stratford doing eight-hour performances of *Faust* and nobody's turned up apparently, but once they've started they've got to see it through. She's coming back for the anniversary though."

The drinks order is taken. "Pint of lager, weak, not Stella," says Sweeney, anxious to retain his faculties. Merton, studiously rolling a cigarette, plumps for "orange juice and lemonade. Pint."

Founder member Neil Mullarkey is the group's Bill Wyman, the archivist who, Vranich claims, can instantly recall the line-up on any given day. Mullarkey can tell you that the audience-suggestion games that make up the show all originate from Second City in Chicago, where the talents of John Belushi, Dan Aykroyd and Mike Myers were nurtured. The Players first performed, he remembers, in Edinburgh in August 1985 before an audience of five. The line-up? Mullarkey, Merton, Dave Cohen (last seen with Jewish rockers Guns N' Roses), Kit Hollerbach (last seen married to comedian Jeremy Hardy) and Myers (last seen in Hollywood). A couple of months later the Comedy Store run began.

Don Ward, the Store's boss, can usually be found loitering near the bar. With the well-oiled sheen of a successful showbiz impresario, he introduces himself as "producer, owner, proprietor, instigator". Of exactly what, he doesn't feel he needs to say. "The Players," he announces with a fatherly pride, "are my bankers. I've nursed them through. I've had to lose to make. If I see potential, I stick with it. I've had patience..." he beams, "and it's been rewarded."

Ward will be pleased to hear, then, that Paul Merton can see them still playing in 2005. Evidently, he loves the opportunity afforded to roam the comic byways of his mind once a week, away from the cameras. "If you go away for a month to work elsewhere, when you come back, it's always 'Great, back to this', because if you do something in television you have to deal with all these people to get across the idea that you want, whereas here you stand on the stage and you say the idea as it comes into your head."

Half an hour before the off, the dressing room is cleared of all liggers, jokers, mates, girlfriends and wives (unless Merton's missus, Caroline Quentin, is on the bill). They just "talk about anything, chat, focus, prepare..." says Sweeney. But not rehearse, because with impro you can't, though there are those who think it's a fix. "Harry Hill reckons it's all a con," laughs Sweeney. "That the audience shouts out the same things and we slip into the same routines. Like we're lying."

Unlike stand-up, where the punters are there to abuse and/or be abused, the audience plays a major part. Many of the audience return again and again, though, despite the Players' boyish charms, there's no groupie mentality. When Vranich gets the beers in during the interval, he's practically ignored. Noticeably, it's a young crowd.

The half-time chat runs something like this: Merton: "There's certain references they just don't understand."

Sweeney: "You can't get a laugh out of Lionel Blair any more."

Merton: "The days when *Mary Mungo and Midge* brought the house down are sadly gone. And Reg Varney as well. We've got people who

weren't born when *Monty Python* stopped."

So it must have been perversity that caused Merton to blank the audience later that night with a Wilfrid Hyde-White gag.

Five minutes after the show, the Players are unwinding backstage.

Merton: "A typical evening."

Simpson: "Calling a member of the audience a twat was a bit odd."

Vranich: "Well he was."

Merton: "A couple of things didn't work tonight. The foreign lecturer thing... I couldn't see any jokes at all."

Vranich: "Yeah, I was trying to do too much."

Merton: "It wasn't your fault. It's the nature of it. There's no rehearsal so things like that happen. [looking at me] Anyway, it's only because you're here that we're actually talking about it at all. Normally we go straight down the pub. And they close at half 10 on a Sunday... And it's already quarter past..."

Comedy Store Players 10th anniversary, Comedy Store, 1 Oxendon St, London SW1 (0171-344 4444), 8pm tomorrow, £9

Les Misérables

"STANDS OUT AS THE GREATEST MUSICAL of this half century, just as 'Porgy and Bess' stood out for the first fifty years of it"

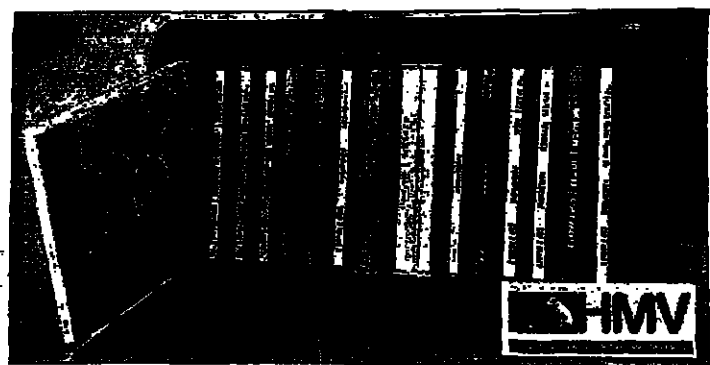
SHERIDAN MORLEY, INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE
11 OCTOBER 1995



11TH VICTORIOUS YEAR
PALACE THEATRE
BOX OFFICE: 0171-434 0909

20 BEATLES BOX SETS

to be won with the **INDEPENDENT**



Plus, for 20 runners-up, a copy of the new Beatles album

Roll up for a magical mystery tour through the Beatles back catalogue. We have teamed up with HMV, the UK's leading music retailer, to offer 20 Beatles Box Sets as prizes in our Fab Four prize draw.

The Boxed Set, which is highly collectable and sells for £270, is the definitive Beatles collection. Fifteen albums take us from *Loveable Mopsters* to *Acid Pranksters* and beyond in 200 songs and 1,000 minutes of music. The accompanying booklet contains rare photos and informed commentaries.

And because the Beatles Boxed Set does not include *The Beatles Anthology 1*, which is due to be released on November 21, we have 20 copies as runners-up prizes. This album comprises hitherto unheard songs and early takes by the embryonic band.

To enter, you must collect two differently

numbered tokens from the three we are printing in the *Independent* and the *Independent on Sunday*. One token must come from the *Independent on Sunday*. Today we are printing token 1, and we will print an entry form in Monday's *Independent*.

If you are unlucky in our prize draw, you can reserve a copy of *The Beatles Anthology 1* at any of the 100 branches of HMV nationwide or call the HMV Orderline on 0171 637 1167 to have a copy delivered to your home.

It is appropriate that our Fab Four prize draw is being held in association with HMV. On May 8, 1962 a young man used the recording studio in HMV's Oxford Street store to cut a copy of an unknown band's demo tape. He sent it to EMI who, having heard it, gave the band a recording contract.

The young man was Brian Epstein. The band was brilliant.



1. To enter our Beatles prize draw, collect 2 differently numbered tokens (including one from the *Independent* and one from the *Independent on Sunday*) and send with a completed entry form to: Independent/Beatles Prize Draw, PO Box 455, Weymouth, Dorset DT9 1TT. The closing date is 23 November 1995. We will print an entry form on Monday 30 October.
2. For previously uncollected tokens or an entry form sent to SAE to Independent/Beatles, PO Box 204, Weymouth, Dorset DT9 1TT. State the amount of tokens you require (only 2 per application). Please mark clearly on your envelope, TOKEN REQUEST or ENTRY FORM. If you require both, please send separate SAEs. Requests must be received by post on 6 November 1995.
3. There is no cash alternative.
4. Photocopies of tokens and entry forms are not acceptable.
5. Employees and agents of Newspaper Publishing Plc or those of any other national newspaper company or any firm connected with the provision are not eligible to take part, neither are their relatives nor members of their families or households.
6. The promoter reserves the right in their absolute discretion to disqualify any entry or entries, tampered or to add to, or waive any rules.
7. No correspondence will be entered into. Proof of postage will not be accepted as proof of receipt. The promoter will not take responsibility for entries lost or damaged in the post.
8. The competition is open to residents of the UK and the Irish Republic.
9. The Editor's decision is final.

مكتبة الامم

INTERVIEW

How many fantasies can one man have?

The photographer Helmut Newton has a thing about scars. And surgical appliances. And breasts. But that doesn't make him a sexual fantasist. Oh no. By Helen Birch



Exploitative porn or ironic pornochic? 'It's just statement. I don't have anything to say,' claims Newton

Half-way through our allotted hour, Helmut Newton is getting restless again. We've already left the privacy of the print room of his London gallery, Hamiltons, so that he can bounce up and down on the bannister to relieve the pain of his hernia. "Ah, this is better," he says, smiling, brown button eyes mischievous behind round glasses. "Well, go on, fire away." And now, having sidestepped interview convention, he's wandered off in search of the "powers that be" - his wife, June.

Is he bored? "No." Then, "Do you like it?" He turns to face the woman standing beside June, who is examining a 7ft black-and-white print of a nude, head flung backward, hair teased and sprayed and breasts jutting upwards like two fairy cakes.

"I love it darling," the woman purrs, plums rolling round her mouth. "I think they're all marvelous. We're just trying to work out which tits are real. These look as if they were assisted." "They're amazing," says Helmut, reverently. "I hate redone boobs, but this is an amazing job." His friend walks over to another picture, this one of a woman perched on a sculpture of a horse, torso twisted like a corkscrew. "Amazing body," says Helmut. His voice is hushed with awe. "It was an extraordinary body, you know. I wanted to show her behind and her breasts. And I said, 'twist more'. I don't know how she did it. It was like ball bearings. But an incredible body."

Helmut Newton gives his critics plenty of ammunition. Since the Seventies, when his fashion photography brought fetishism and nudity off the top shelf, out of the sex shop and into the glossy pages of French *Vogue* and *Der Stern*, his images of women, legs splayed, breasts bared, often clad in little more than a pair of impossibly high heels, suspenders and a chain, whip or handcuffs, have made him one of photography's few brand names. The Newton photograph is a sexual tableau, carefully composed and tastefully lit, his favourite *mise en scene* an opulent hotel room or chateau garden. It is for Newton that the term "porno-chic" was invented, and it is he, his detractors say, who has helped make pornography acceptable. Only his technique, the argument goes, gives his pictures of women - cold and objectified as they invariably are - the veneer of artistic credibility.

Then there is the fact that Newton has been

widely imitated. Newton took fashion photography to the edge, and now it may have fallen into the abyss. Over the years Newton has ducked and dived around this issue, trotting out platitudes about his admiration for women and literal-minded statements such as this: "You can see that any idiot could get out of those ropes," (when asked whether he is degrading women by depicting them in bondage). Now, however, he declares himself "bored" by the whole subject. I ask him what he makes of the recent attack by Laraine Ashton, managing director of IMG models, on the exploitation of models in women's magazines. "A British newspaper," he says, limbering up on his bannister, "fired me and asked me to say something about that. I said I had too much work to do to talk about such bullshit. The whole thing was ridiculous."

Newton was born in Berlin but fled in 1938, under the shadow of Hitler. This fact, coupled with his professional penchant for lush black and white and high class S&M, has led to the trite observation that he is obsessed with Weimar decadence - "come to the Cabaret, old chum". He has, however, lived longer outside his native country than in it. He currently lives in Monte Carlo with June, a photographer who works under the name of Alice Springs, to whom he has been married for 47 years.

"There's sun there and low taxes," he says matter of factly. "I lived 26 years in Paris and I wanted to leave because I'd photographed everything there that I wanted and the climate was getting me down and the 70 per cent taxes were getting me down." He stresses the contrast between the giddy world of his pictures and his cosy lifestyle. His wife, he says (and this is one subject on which he is consistent), has always supported his work with nudes, encouraged him to push the boat out further. And he likes Monte Carlo because "it's very quiet in there and I go to bed early and get up early. My wife calls me Helmut the hermit."

The difficulty with Newton's work has always been its wit and its knowingness. Unlike "the reader's wife", snuggled in sweaty disarray, his women are untouchable, poised, in control. They exude a power that has less to do with sex than with the detachment their bourgeois surroundings confer. They gaze haughtily at the onlooker from their sybaritic

bondage, without so much as a hint of pleasure, or a flicker of individuality. Newton works with numerous different models, mostly professional. He has no real favourites, no personal fixations. They are empty vessels frozen on film. And there he is in so many of his pictures, cast as the knowing voyeur, popping up in the background with his camera, gazing up at his Amazonian female like a weak-kneed teenager. As you walk into his new show at Hamiltons, two massive nudes stand, one foot forward, one arm thrust out in mock imitation of tribal people brandishing spears in a natural history museum. ("They are my stuffed women," laughs Helmut.) And there he goes again, the dada of pornochic, in the catalogue for his 1992 show, "Archives de Nuit", juxtaposing a picture of a jalousy with its engine taken out with one of a female dummy, entrails spilling from the split in its belly. Trite? Perhaps, but ironic commentary on the objectification and voyeurism of his chosen genre is the passport proffered by his fans to the rarified world of postmodern seriousness.

Now 74, Newton looks anything but the randy old man in a raincoat. Slim, tanned and diminutive, he wears a pinstripe suit, burgundy silk handkerchief peeping out of the top pocket, a white T-shirt and spanking new white trainers. Casual and elegant and decidedly Eurochic. He greets me with an abstracted smile and a handshake, chattering all the while about his latest contract (with the *New Yorker*) and commissions - a calendar for a petrol company, a series on male designers for *Marie Claire*. ("Do you know Glenda Bailey [the editor of *Marie Claire*]? Lovely girl." Everything for Helmut is "lovely", "amazing" or "boring". He does, he admits, "get bored very easily".

Which may be why, in each interview you read, he contradicts himself so happily. At an exhibition of his work in Paris last year, he told the *Herald Tribune's* Susie Menkes that these were "mes derniers nus" ("my last nudes"). He went on to say, uncharacteristically for someone famed for his refusal to analyse his work, that he had had a "strong reaction" against the naked female body: "I have a strong desire to photograph women clothed head to foot with hardly an inch of flesh," he said. "I was bored," he says now. "I'd had it up to here with nudes. I can't always keep doing the same thing."

But with the notable exception of his portrait photography, he has been doing exactly that for a quarter of a century. Which is where all the fancy theorising about his pictures of women stumbles. In isolation, his most famous images, like say, that of a sleek, elegant model wearing black bra, jodhpurs and riding boots, kneeling on a bed with a saddle on her back, provoke wry amusement, but together, in book after book, show after show, they mimic the eventual monotony of pornography itself. How many fantasies can a person have? And how many times can you depict the same one?

"There are no sexual fantasies in my pictures. Maybe the early ones, but not now. It's just statement. I don't have anything to say." Why so many nudes then? "I don't know," he sighs (bored?). "I have done landscapes, but no one would want to see them." Really? "I'm not looking for a perfect body, whatever that means, because I find that boring. But what would be the *raison d'être* of photographing them with their clothes on? I mean, you can evolve, you can change, but you can't get out of your skin. June has done a video about me, and at one point she says, 'If someone were to drop dead in front of Helmut's camera, he would try to arrange the corpse.' I'm a very ordered person."

And necrophilia may be where he is headed. From women emptied of humanity, to dummies, and then, in the late Seventies, he began shooting women wearing surgical appliances - neck braces, corsets. He has photographed June following an operation, himself with electrodes strapped to his chest after a heart attack. And in the new edition of his occasional series of monographs, *Newton's Illustrated*, a nude stands, back to the camera, in regulation high heels, fringed gauntlets covering her hands, with one leg encased in a complicated stainless steel brace, its tip almost piercing the flesh of her buttocks. "A doctor in Berlin made that for me," says Helmut, without irony. "I told him exactly what I wanted."

"I like scars," he adds, seriously. "I photograph women who've had bad operations, who've been badly sewn up. And every time I have something done to me, which is often, I photograph myself. I am very squeamish. I find I can face surprises better when I have a camera between me and the crisis." And in his other pictures? Why the need for distance there?

Disingenuity again: "I do reject cloying romanticism and soft focus, but I don't look for my pictures to be cold. It just happens that way."

Newton admits to a different approach with his celebrity portraits - of actresses, aristos, pop stars - even some men. They are his best work, suffused with ego: playful, ironic, intimate and occasionally cruel. "With portraits, it's important to intrude," he says. "I'm an admirer of paparazzi - that's the ultimate intrusion. But I ask my subjects to present themselves in front of my camera. I think it's important if you do a portrait... I will obviously decide how I photograph it, the place and the situation, but it's very important that I don't make this person into another person."

So he has Sigourney Weaver in lustrous black-and-white drag, playing off her androgynous screen image - and her appeal to both sexes and all sexualities. And again, as screen goddess, standing, legs splayed, arms flung back in triumph, on rolls of discarded film. He has Michael Caine and his wife, Shakira, in full dinner uniform, lying on a sun lounger by a huge swimming pool, luxuriating in wealth. Were they complicit? He won't say. Or there's Jackie Bisset as aspiring high-class sex symbol in fishnet tights and a slimy slip that could come from Anne Summers.

Most of these, like the majority of his pictures, were done to commission. He prefers to work that way, he says, getting animated now. "I need the frame within which to function. I find it more difficult to please myself than when someone comes to me and says they want to sell something - jewels or hardware or clothes."

This means of course, that in the case of models and nudes, the fantasy, the "statement" can always be made to fit the brief. It is this limitation, this failure of imagination if you like, that has consigned Newton ever to be the voyeur, peering through the window of the serious major galleries. But he doesn't really care. He is happy to be "a gun for hire" and to command "a lot of money," he laughs. "A lot of money."

Helmut Newton's 'Nude Works 1992-5', Hamiltons, London W1 to 18 Nov (0171-499 9493). He will give this year's Blackburn lecture on 'Risks for Art' at Glasgow School of Art, Monday 20 Nov (0141-353 4500)

RADIO 3's POETIC LICENCE.



HEAR THE WORKS OF KEATS WITH A BI-CENTENARY CELEBRATION OF THE POET'S BIRTH. TOMORROW AT 5.45PM.



TELEVISION

Crapston Villas (Channel 4)

A 10-minute drama with Plasticine stars is Jasper Rees's idea of a good soap opera

The problem with soaps is they take up too much time. In the lifespan of the average soap addict, 25 years are spent in bed, 10 at the table, five on the bog – broadly speaking in line with everyone else, in other words – but a whopping 22 years fly by with the addict slumped in front of the telly. Is that any way to spend a life?

Signing up to watch a soap, like committing yourself to 20 Bensons a day or a flagon of Drambuie, involves surrendering a hefty slice of personal liberty. *Crapston Villas* is a soap anyone could find the time of day for. That's partly because it's not actually on in the day, partly because it's hardly on at all. Just 10 minutes a week is a commitment even the most addiction-resistant viewer can make without troubling their conscience. It's a bit like a slimmer's weekly bag of Maltesers: over in next to no time but worth the wait.

Crapston Villas is, in many respects, typical of the genre. It's site-specific – set in London, SE69 (pharr, pharr) in a townhouse converted into flats, and the cast of characters who inhabit its three floors suffer from the usual set of social and emotional tensions. But it also offers unique rewards for first-time buyers: this is the first soap to portray a character who thinks he's a film director, the first to let you see a cat vomiting copiously and then licking up the mess, the first to show a woman naked in bed. It's also the first soap in which all the characters are genuinely made out of Plasticine but sound real, as opposed to looking real and sounding Plasticine.

Hence the slowness of the weekly portions – although in animation, 10 minutes is actually quite a generous helping. Nick Park, the most garlanded artist in this medium, needs a year to produce half an hour of finished film. Sarah Anne Kennedy and Spitting Image Productions, who have delivered 100 minutes in all, allow their figures to move in much broader strokes. The details in facial mobility are many fewer, but the fixed physiognomies are expressive enough to make up for it. Jonathan, the layabout would-be director who shares with his perma-grouch girlfriend Sophie, has a more or less oblong head and a goatee. The kid saboteur on the top floor is not much more than eyes and front teeth. One gay character is basically Freddie Mercury.

Ten minutes presents a vast expense to an animator but a postage stamp to a scriptwriter. The dialogue and the voiceovers need to be spot on, and they are. Flossie the lodger, a magnificent gargoyle who looks and talks like a vanilla cone in a 36DD, is done to a tee by Jane Horrocks. All her previous roles seem to have been but a preparation for this squawking numskull. If the litmus test of a soap is that it offers for your inspection characters you recognise, then *Crapston Villas* sails through. And if you hate cats, then this gritty serving of urban realism is right up your alley.

THEATRE Jolson, Victoria Palace Theatre, London

The singing was great, but the plot is missing: David Benedict found himself caring about nothing but when the next song was going to arrive



Brian Conley belts out numbers like an unstoppable force: if anyone can save this show, it's him

Photograph: Stuart Morris

In many ways, *Jolson* resembles the mega-flop Gertrude Lawrence bio-musical *Start!*. They are both star vehicles, backstage rags-to-riches stories of career success and personal pain packed with good songs, both lasting three hours. Sadly, *Jolson* repeats the formula of having no discernible point of view or attitude to its material.

It may seem fatuous to ask, but what is *Jolson* actually about? Is it just a parade of the career of the man universally regarded as "the world's greatest entertainer", a Jewish emigrant from Lithuania whose career at the top of showbiz makes Madonna look like a one-hit wonder? Yes. Isn't that enough? No. Despite the strenuous efforts of Sally Ann Triplett as his wife Ruby Keeler and John Bennett as his long-suffering agent, everyone bar Jolson remains a cipher, with the result that you end up caring about nothing except when the next song is going to arrive.

It can be done. The bio-musical *Funny Girl* had similarly little to say, but everyone was too busy watching Barbra Streisand to notice. Nevertheless, that show had the sort of dramatic structure that *Jolson* so painfully lacks. Streisand went out there a youngster and came back a star. Brian Conley is no youngster, and with 12 million fans for his TV show no one is going to label him an overnight sensation, but if anyone can save this, it's him.

For starters, beneath the harsh, metallic sound-mix, his impersonation is uncannily good. He belts out numbers like an unstoppable force. Beefy, brash and brazen, he is supremely in control. By sheer force of personality he makes you believe he is the singer

who broke every record in the business, commanded staggering fees and was worshipped by millions. Yet even he cannot save cheesy scenes like the one where a young black kid sings for him and is sent away unknowingly carrying a wad of dollar bills. It's a craven appeal to the lowest common denominator, solely there to illustrate that, contrary to everything we've seen up to that moment, the man has heart. This show has no sense of shame.

The producers are refreshingly upfront about Jolson's egomania, less so about his relationships with the women in his life. He famously gave Keeler a black eye. Here he steals her limelight, pays her no attention and shouts a lot. She divorces him, but don't worry, she's back smiling for the finale. Then there's the whole issue of "blackening up". Jolson made it playing in blackface at the time when a colour bar existed on Broadway. Later in the show, Conley performs without the make-up and nothing is said. Black audiences are left to like the historical context or lump it.

The show is also stymied by the scale of the sets, some of which, despite the budget, actually wobble. It's impressive when the entire orchestra is flown in for the inevitable final concert sequence, but with that amount of scenery waiting in the fly gallery, scenes often begin in embarrassment from light with the set still arriving behind them. Conley's powerhouse performance and the immense marketing campaign may put everything in the shade and ensure the show's survival, but audiences deserve far more.

Booking: 0171-834 1317

OPERA

La Belle Héléne

Nice cast, shame about the staging, says Raymond Monelle of Scottish Opera's latest

It was odd that the short biography of Anne Howells in Scottish Opera's programme didn't mention her success as Offenbach's *Hélène* with English National Opera in 1975. She is still quite acceptable, after 20 years, as the most beautiful woman in the world, and of course she sails through this part with huge bravura, even though she has had to learn a new and witty translation by John Wells. Howells's abundant presence was not enough, however, to carry a production that was in every respect provincial and musically wooden.

Scottish Opera has recently been plunged into crisis, and its decision to change to a part-time basis (the alternative was to sack the orchestra) has seemed to some to suggest over-reaction and pique. It would be splendid – probably every critic felt – to be able to proclaim that the company's work is still triumphantly international, despite all its troubles. This season, it has not given cause for such enthusiasm; one constantly leaves the theatre filled with regret and frustration.

For its new *La Belle Héléne* the company has brought in two French directors, Patrice Caurier and Moshe Leiser, a French conductor, Emmanuel Joel, and a French set designer, Christian Rätz. This ought to have guaranteed a real sharpness of wit and a knowing instinct for tempo. But no, the piece was sunk without trace in clowning and buffoonery, most of it lamentably unfunny. Each set was cluttered with furniture (bar the last-act seaside scene, where things began to improve), making it impossible for the chorus to dance as well as sing (Offenbach's numbers are, of course, mostly song-and-dance routines) and forcing them to resort to mere jiggling about and hand-waving.

Wells had translated all of the original text, apparently, including the tedious game of Goose in Act 2, and the whole thing ran for an interminable three-and-a-half hours. It would have been bearable if only the music, with its sly speed-shifts that are scrupulously marked in the score, had been given just a touch of elastic, the relations of tempo grasped with just a grain of intelligence. The orchestra sounded distinctly unhappy. Perhaps they were preoccupied about job security.

The cast were excellent (though wasted on a half-baked production). Jonathan Veira was a hilarious Calchas, Tracey Welborn a lyric and credible Paris, John Mitchinson a suitably bumbling Menelaus and Gordon Wilson a yodel of an Achilles. Andrew Slater was a noisy and bombastic Agamemnon, and the two Ajaxes (James Drummond Nelson and Garry Magee) were a pair of public-school clots. Vocally, all were impressive.

Top marks, then, to the mainly British cast, especially the gorgeous leading lady; black marks to the mainly French high command. It seems a paradoxical verdict for a piece as quintessentially French as this.

In rep to Sat, Theatre Royal, Glasgow (0141-232 3000), then touring



THE WEEK'S
REVIEW
David
Benedict

THE EXHIBITION

DYNASTIES

OVERVIEW

CRITICAL VIEW

ON VIEW

OUR VIEW

THE PLAY

CYRANO

THE FILM

TO DIE FOR

THE DANCE

JEREMY BEADLE



DICKIE
FANTASTIC
on the schmooze

'When you get as famous as Jeremy Beadle give us a ring'

The Jewish Performer of the Year party at the Cambridge Theatre is a notoriously difficult event to gate-crash, seeing as it is not just star-studded, but also a potential Middle Eastern terrorist target. You must remember that we are a race (for I am one) who fervently telephone each other and organise urgent meetings if somebody makes a humorous anti-Semitic aside on Jim Davidson's *Big Break*, so to have a huge bomb go off down the road, as it did a few short years ago, is nothing short of apocalyptic. Consequently, security tonight is huge, terrifying and ostensibly all aimed at me. "I have got a ticket, I just don't know

where," I whine, as six enormous men gaze down upon me, muttering into their walkie-talkies. "He claims to be from the *Independent*... blue trousers... no ticket..." he says he's Jewish.

The party is a remarkably lavish affair made even more so by the military might at the door. Of course, security maketh celebrity, and Ronnie Scott and Uri Geller have never seemed so glamorous as they are tonight – one has to all but traverse landmines and barbed wire to get to tell Jeremy Beadle how much you enjoy *You've Been Framed*.

In the corner, a bunch of amateur Jewish dancers limber up for their big

moment, which is a tad worrying because they are all very clumsy. Jews have never been great at the exquisite art and movement of sound, and a lady, who introduces herself as Gloria, tells me that she's got terrible athlete's foot and is worried that she'll be compelled to bend down and furiously scratch during her big solo. "I said to the doctor, you don't understand, man. Give me some bloody strong industrial lotion. I'm oozing. I told him. I'm oozing. Does he want me to ooze all over the stage? But would he listen to me? Does anyone listen to me?"

"Oh, don't be such an old whiner," interrupts a man who turns out to be

Eric Hall, the famed football promoter. "I do a column, too," he says, "in the *Sunday People*, Jewish material, you know, laughs. Blue but wholesome. I've invented a character called Uncle Morrie who gets into all sorts of scrapes."

"Like what?" I ask.

"Oh, you know," says Eric. "Last week Uncle Morrie's wife died. I asked him how do you feel? And Uncle Morrie said, well, the sex is the same but the ironing's piling up. Ha, ha, ha!"

Eric roars with laughter and three security guards in the corner glance furiously in our direction. "How do you feel about all this security?" I ask a promi-

nent Jewish celebrity who wants to remain anonymous. "It's fabulous," he says. "The Anti-Terrorist Squad come around every half hour to check that I'm OK. You'd probably qualify for protection, too. It won't cost you a penny."

And I'm all for it. Indeed, I'm thrilled at the thought of filling my home with a bunch of new friends who are singularly employed to safeguard my well-being and ask for nothing in return (which is more than you can say for your unwaged chums, who want to tell you their problems and everything).

"Give it a try," he continues. "Go on and ask."

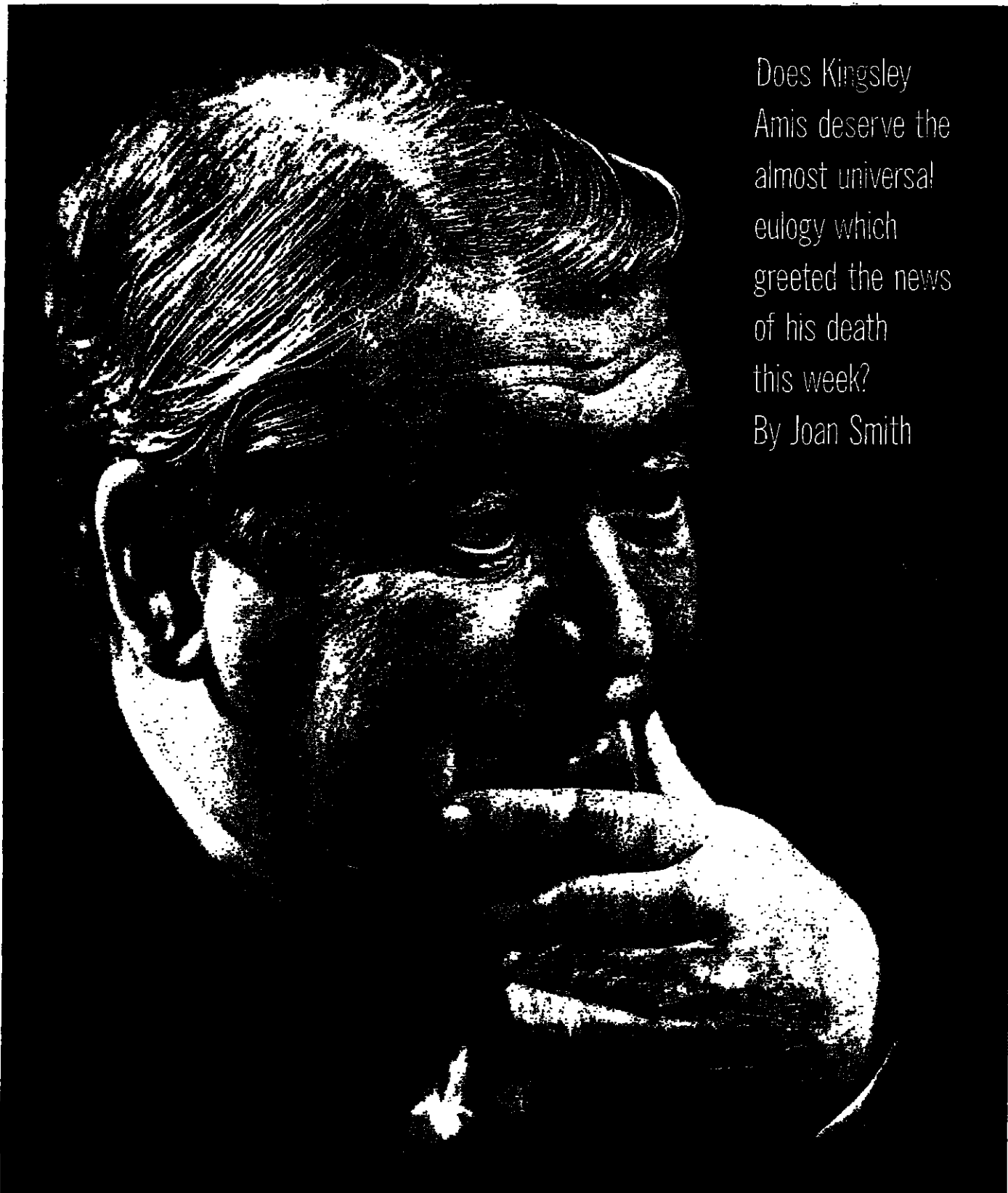
He takes me over to the head of security and says: "My friend here, he feels as if he may need protection."

"Do you think you're a potential target?" asks the security chief. "Might be," I reply, shrugging modestly.

"Well, join the queue," he says. "Honestly, you London Jews. We've never had so many phonecalls. One young bloke asks for protection last week because someone gave him a nasty look on the Tube. Put it this way..." he pauses. "You're no Jeremy Beadle, are you? When you get as famous as Jeremy Beadle, give us a ring. Then we'll see what we can do."

مسكنا في الامم

The afterlife of Kingsley Amis



Does Kingsley Amis deserve the almost universal eulogy which greeted the news of his death this week?

By Joan Smith

On Sunday evening, as news of the death of Sir Kingsley Amis spread through the literary world, reporters hit the telephones in search of assessments of his life and work from other novelists. The tributes poured in, even though it's obvious that reputations are notoriously hard to judge in an author's lifetime – and more especially in the immediate aftermath of his or her death.

"Sir Kingsley Amis, giant of literature, dies at 73", the *Daily Mail* announced unequivocally. The front page of the *Guardian* was more cautious, hailing Amis as a "comic master" and leaving it to the *Times* to reach for the top shelf of hyperbole: Amis was an "irascible genius", the "grand old man of English letters".

Melvin Bragg said Amis had dominated literature for half a century. John Mortimer described him as "a genuine comic writer, probably the best after P G Wodehouse". Keith Waterhouse gave him "a very high place" in literary history. Malcolm Bradbury (who writes on *Lucky Jim* below) boldly declared Amis to be one of four great fiction writers in Britain in the late 20th century, the others being William Golding, Anthony Burgess and Doris Lessing.

What is surprising, given the hostile reviews for Amis's last novel, *The Biographer's Moustache*, which came out last August, is that critical voices were either absent or muted. This reticence can be explained, in part, as observation of the prohibition *de mortuis nihil nisi bonum* – a self-denying ordinance so potent that one novelist who was approached for her views, and who admits privately to being shocked by the weakness of the later novels, declined to say anything at all.

Several profiles and obituaries rehearsed Amis's trajectory from Angry Young Men of the left to the Thatcherite right. In a Fabian pamphlet published in 1957, he wrote that "any right-wing sentiment in the mouth of an intellectual (or anywhere else) is likely to annoy me"; his political programme at the time included abolition of the public schools, the aristocracy, the

House of Lords, even the monarchy. These views were all abandoned in favour of opposition to the expansion of higher education on the grounds that "more will mean worse", a distrust of "abroad", and a tendency towards social climbing. But the admission in his obituaries that Amis had turned into a knee-jerk right-winger was tempered by the claim that he was deliberately playing to the gallery – that he was "doing his usual act of being a crusty and grumpy gentleman", as John Mortimer puts it.

One of the few people to break ranks on Amis was Sir Peregrine Worsthorne, former editor of the *Sunday Telegraph*, whose response was a regretful acknowledgment of wasted potential: "I am afraid he will be remembered more for his hate than his love, and more as a bit of a monster than as a great writer. The personality of the angry old man came to overshadow the work of the angry young man and in the end totally eclipsed it".

Worsthorne's judgement clears the way for questions to be asked about Amis's standing as a novelist. Is it the case, as Malcolm Bradbury maintained in Monday's *Daily Mail*, that "like most great writers, even at his most outrageous or annoying, he has told us some of the essential truths of his time?" Or is his reputation – and that of his literary cohort, John Osborne – largely the result of a fortunate accident of timing?

Lucky Jim was published in 1954, two years before *Look Back in Anger* had its debut at the Royal Court. Both works have lower middle-class protagonists whose iconoclasm struck a chord in drab post-war Britain: both Jimmies seemed new and dangerous at a time when the old hierarchies of wealth and class were under attack with no coherent system of values to replace them.

Amis and Osborne were quickly bracketed together as Angry Young Men and their rage was assumed to be political. In retrospect, Amis's later espousal of the politics he used to despise suggests that his anger had internal and more occluded sources, which began

to reveal themselves only as the light touch of *Lucky Jim* gave way to the irritability and posturing of the later novels.

One was his horror of death, acknowledged in his book *The Anti-Death League*; another was an obsessive and infantile rage against women which, far from being incidental, weighed down his characters and plots with visible prejudice and fatally limited his range. Amis's misogyny is admitted by some of his admirers (such as his biographer Eric Jacobs) and vehemently denied by others. "Imperceptive critics sometimes alleged that his novels reveal a dislike of women", the novelist Allan Massie complained in Monday's *Daily Telegraph*. John Bayley in the *Times* suggested that Amis was "always on the side of his delinquent males even when he pretended to be showing them up", leading him to conclude that Amis is "essentially a man's novelist". (Lyne Truss, reviewing *The Folks That Live on the Hill*, was so dismayed by Amis's attitude to women that she wrote of having a nightmare in which she was a female character in an Amis novel.)

That there is a gender divide on Amis's achievement suggests not so much that he is a bad novelist but that his ability to tell us "essential truths" is limited. The things he tried to avoid – women (which is why the Garrick Club suited him so well), being left alone at night, travelling alone by train or plane – suggest an infantile dependency he was never able to overcome; Amis's final interview with Glynis Roberts painted a shocking picture of an unhappy, defeated old man whose anger had finally given way to despair. "There is no personal God", he said. "There is no point to life."

What people will make of Amis in 100 years time is almost impossible to guess. He may, as this week's obituaries suggest, be regarded as a novelist of the first rank; it's equally possible that he will be remembered for *Lucky Jim*, a middlebrow romp which captured the fractured spirit of its times, and not much else. That debate has yet to take place and the rush to eulogise, remarkable so far for its near-unanimity, has merely postponed it.

'Lucky Jim' caught the mood of its time when it was first published in 1954, but was it more than a cultural phenomenon? Malcolm Bradbury argues that Amis's first novel has the status of a lasting classic

It's not always good to win great fame for a first book. There is, after all, an awful lot of living and writing to do after that, and early success often draws attention away from the strengths of later work. The simple fact remains that for all that he wrote some remarkable novels later on (and won the Booker Prize for one of them, *The Old Devils*), Kingsley Amis, so sadly lost to us this week, will always be remembered for his first one, *Lucky Jim*.

It came out in 1954. That was the year when, with grand confidence, the *Observer* ran a series of articles initiated by Harold Nicolson, announcing that the Novel Was Dead. This is always an unwise move. Literary history proves that nearly every such pronouncement is followed by a burst of the remarkable. That happened in 1954; which turned into an exceptional year for fiction. Iris Murdoch's *Under the Net* and William Golding's *Lord of the Flies*, the first published novels of both of them, showed up in the same season.

What Nicolson probably meant was the Bloomsbury novel was dead. So it was. It was now the pre-war novel, the fiction of exhausted Modernism. What happened in 1954 was that the post-war novel was born; these three were flagship books of a new fictional generation. Not that they had much in common. Amis's book and Murdoch's both had what the reviewers called "new heroes", drop-outs from traditional culture making their picaresque way through the post-war world. But Amis was a commonsense comedian, Murdoch a romantic philosopher. Golding's fable summed up the surrounding sense of moral disillusion: in the world after the atomic bomb, the old Imperial rules of decent boyhood no longer applied.

What made *Lucky Jim* the international success it quickly became? Like many successes, it appeared at the right moment, on the cusp of a real cultural change. The Welfare State had arrived and become the British social condition. A new meritocracy was leaving the new free grammar schools, entering the

expanding provincial universities, coming face to face with the remnants of a culture still soaked with Oxbridge and Bloomsbury values. Students were called "gentlemen", lecturers wore gowns. There was high-minded art-talk, still influenced by Clive Bell and Roger Fry. Provincial campuses set next to Woolworth's and Dolcis assumed the manners of All Souls.

The redbrick university was ideal setting for a tale of what was nothing less than a British social revolution. Angus Wilson had

already satirized the "darting dodos," but where better catch them than on the provincial campus? "Lucky" Jim Dixon, the young lecturer in History, is the stranger at the High Table, happier with the bottle of beer and the blonde than with academic or artistic gatherings, easier with his own common sense voice than with professorial high-speak. Since this world is a caricature of itself he caricatures it, gently yet mercilessly, pulling comic faces and burning (by accident) his

professor's bedsheets.

Professor Welch, Jim's main but not only adversary in the novel, answers his telephone "History speaking". Fifties readers knew that real history, the history of contemporary change, was with Jim. Asked to lecture on Merrie England, he can only get merrily drunk. Forced to inscribe the highest Leavisian thoughts, he gets up and does a gibbering ape imitation round the room. When he goes off to London at the end, he considers the magical

options: "Bayswater, Knightsbridge, Notting Hill Gate, Pimlico, Belgrave Square, Wapping, Bloomsbury. No, not Bloomsbury." Or so it says in the American edition. The final reaction is made anodyne in the British one, reflecting someone's anxiety about the book's impact on current literary culture.

It was considerable. One irony of the book's success was that it was crowned with the Somerset Maugham Prize. Invited to comment, Maugham said: "They are

mean, malicious, and envious... They are scum." His "they" was prescient; *Lucky Jim* was a social type, the book a cultural phenomenon. And, just like his son Martin a couple of decades on, Kingsley will be remembered for creating a distinctive Amisian language. When Jim finally expresses his mind, it's the new vernacular speaking.

Yet the fact the book has lasted shows it's far more than a cultural phenomenon. *Lucky Jim* is a classic comic novel – and not just because it's so funny. It follows some of the highest laws of comedy. Jim is "lucky" because he enjoys the good fortune of the comic hero. Though he's anarchic against order, he gets his reward and constitutes the new moral order at the end, winning the good job in London and the nicest female in the plot. It's a highly perfected literary novel, showing its debts to Fielding's *Tom Jones*, to Evelyn Waugh, even to Wodehouse. But it's also a comic experiment – applying vision, satire, parody, and burlesque, in a realistic fashion, to a new phase of culture.

For the next several books, until the end of the Sixties, Amis applied this voice and vision to the detail of the fast-changing culture. After *Look Back in Anger* in 1956, this was called "Anger", though in Amis's case it's a bad name for it. *Lucky Jim* is both anarchic and benign. The real anger showed in the later novels, not against human institutions but the human condition: ageing and loneliness, lovelessness and death. The voice with its strong rolling idioms and comic upsets, went on, through better books and worse ones, comedies and near-tragedies. *Lucky Jim* is a book where a writer finds himself as a writer, and when an era finds a writer speaking in its language. That is why it's a lasting classic.

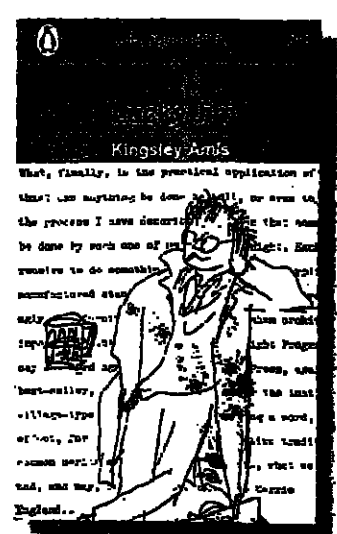
Here, Amis's hero, Jim Dixon, is staying with his boss, Professor Welch. He wakes up to find he has inadvertently burnt a hole in the bedclothes

DIXON was alive again. Consciousness was upon him before he could get out of the way, not for him the slow, gracious wandering from the halls of sleep, but a summary, forcible ejection. He lay sprawled, too wicked to move, spewed up like a broken spider-crab on the tarry shingle of the morning. The light did him harm, but not as much as looking at things did; he resolved, having done it once, never to move his eyeballs again. A dusty thudding in his head made the scene before him beat like a pulse. His mouth had been used as a latrine by some small creature of the night, and then as its mausoleum. During the night, too, he'd somehow been on a cross-country run and then been expertly beaten up by secret police. He felt bad.

He reached out for and put on his glasses. At once he saw that something was wrong with the bedclothes immediately before his face. Endangering his chance of survival, he sat up a little, and what met his bursting eyes roused to a frenzy the timpanist in his head. A large irregular area of the back part of the sheet was missing; a smaller but still considerable area of the turned-back part of the blanket was missing; an area about the size of the palm of his hand in the main part of the top blanket was missing. Through the three holes, which, appropriately enough, had black borders, he could see a dark brown mark on the second blanket. He ran a finger round a bit of the hole in the sheet, and when he looked at his finger it bore a dark-grey stain. That meant ash; ash meant burning; burning must mean cigarettes. Had this cigarette burnt itself out on the blanket? If not, where was it now? Nowhere on the bed; nor in it. He leaned over the side, gritting his teeth; a sunken brown channel, ending in a fragment of discoloured paper, lay across a light patch in the pattern of a valuable-looking rug. This made him feel very unhappy, a feeling sensibly increased when he looked at the bedside table. This was marked by two black, charred grooves, greyish

and shiny in parts, lying at right angles and stopping well short of the ashtray, which held a single used match. On the table were two unused matches; the remainder lay with the empty cigarette packet on the floor. The bakelite mug was nowhere to be seen.

Had he done all this himself? Or had a wayfarer, a burglar, camped out in his room? Or was he the victim of some Horla fond of tobacco? He thought that on the whole he must have done it himself, and wished he hadn't. Surely this would mean the loss of his job, especially if he failed to go to Mrs Welch and confess what he'd done, and he knew already that he wouldn't be able to do that. There was no excuse which didn't consist of the inexcusable: an incendiary was no more pardonable when revealed as a drunkard as well – so much of a drunkard, moreover, that obligations to hosts and fellow-guests and the counter-attraction of a chamber-concert were as nothing compared with the lure of the drink. The only hope was that Welch wouldn't notice what his wife would presumably tell him about the burning of the bedclothes. But Welch had been known to notice things, the attack on his pupil's book in that essay, for example. But that had really been an attack on Welch himself; he couldn't much care what happened to sheets and blankets which he wasn't actually using at the time. Dixon remembered thinking on an earlier occasion that to yaw drunkenly round the Common Room in Welch's presence screeching obscenities, punching out the window-panes, fouling the periodicals, would escape Welch's notice altogether, provided his own person remained inviolate. The memory in turn reminded him of a sentence in a book of Alfred Beesley's he'd once glanced at: "A stimulus cannot be received by the mind unless it serves some need of the organism." He began laughing, an action he soon modified to a wince.



Sixties book cover; poster for the 1957 film starring Ian Carmichael, Terry-Thomas and Hugh Griffith (courtesy Ronald Grant Archive)

Extract from 'Lucky Jim' by Kingsley Amis appears courtesy of Victor Gollancz Ltd

Ian Fleming: licensed to thrill...

But James Bond's creator had more in common with his villains than with his secret service hero. By Patrick French

Andrew Lycett has made an interesting career leap. His previous book was a biography of Colonel Muammar "Mad Dog" Gaddafi, a man whose hairstyle and choice of tailor seem streets away from that of his latest subject, the creator of James Bond.

Ian Fleming is an impressive book, painstakingly researched and thoroughly convincing. It is also utterly depressing: Fleming emerges as a cruel, smarmy, vain, selfish person, with no obvious redeeming features. If you want proof that money does not bring happiness, it can be found here.

In some rather less convincing concluding paragraphs, Lycett asserts that, despite his failings, Fleming "was in so many ways an agreeable man - good company, surprisingly thoughtful (when he could be bothered), and, despite his tendencies to moroseness, with a remarkable capacity for friendship". This reminded me of the claim that Hitler, for all his faults, loved his chickens.

The destructive influence of Fleming's mother, Eve, lies at the heart of this book. After the early death of her husband during the First World War she began a period of theatrical widowhood, elevating the late father of her four sons into "the paragon of manly virtues" and using his memory as a psychological weapon with which to bludgeon her children. Ian was the particular victim of her malicious tongue; the source of his lifelong contempt for women is not hard to locate.

When she had tired of her widow's weeds, Eve decamped to the Bohemian reaches of Chelsea and had a baby, as one tended to in those days, with Augustus John. This did not stop her from being aggressively censorious towards her son when he caught a sexually transmitted disease. Fleming's first three decades were spent in a haze of private money and superficial glamour,

Ian Fleming
by Andrew Lycett
Weidenfeld, £20

consorting with the gilded youth of pre-war Britain. He tried half-heartedly to join the army, then the Foreign Office, then Reuters before ending up as "the world's worst stockbroker".

The story of these years makes slow reading. "At Le Touquet", Lycett tells us, "Ian bumped into Hughie Vivian Smith, nephew of Alfred Wagge's friend, Lancelot (known as Lancy) Hugh Smith..." A week or two later, we learn, he was to be found playing bridge with Bobbie Gordon-Canning, Gerald Coke and Sir George Duff-Sutherland-Dunbar, and roaring off in a fast car to play golf in Kent. We have to put up with 200 pages of this extended *Jenifer's Diary* before a word of the Bond books gets written.

It took the outbreak of war in 1939 to give Fleming's life a purpose. He was recruited into the Naval Intelligence Division, and remained an effective SIS operator into the Fifties. He enjoyed wartime intelligence, and would later use his comrades as prototypes for his fiction. Although his exploits were not especially remarkable, he had an imaginative and authoritative approach towards espionage, and this secured his success. When he was promoted to the rank of Commander, he had his custom-made Morland Special cigarettes emblazoned with three gold bands.

During this period Fleming was a serial seducer, passing through numerous sexual relationships with no apparent emotional attachment. One female friend remembered his attitude as being that of a schoolboy - women were "remote, mysterious beings whom you will never hope to understand but, if you're clever, you can occasionally

shoot one down". He was brought down to earth when one particular girlfriend, whom he had treated like "a cowering slave", died in an air raid. "The trouble with Ian", said a colleague, "is that you have to get yourself killed before he feels anything".

The only relationship of any clear value to him in his life was with Annie, wife of Viscount Rothermere. They enjoyed a protracted affair, based on a good deal of mutual whipping and bruising, which seemed to bring them pleasure. In 1948 she had their child, but the baby died within hours. "Don't ask for double sixes too much", Fleming wrote to her afterwards, in a characteristic swoop from brittleness to sentimentality. "and accept with a shrug the twos and threes and wear your comfortable shoes and not the high heels and feel your feet good and flat on the ground".

A few years later she divorced her husband and married Fleming. It was at this time that he began work on his first book, *Casino Royale*. "Rothermere could not compete with Ian's easy unctuousness", writes Lycett. But once the thrill of the semi-clandestine liaison had been forsaken in favour of marriage, the sparkle died and the relationship began to collapse. They both began fresh affairs. Ian with a Jamaican matron called Blanche and Annie with, of all unlikely people, the Labour leader, Hugh Gaitskill. Now, it is hard to imagine Mary Archer doing a thing like that with Tony Blair.

Fleming divided his time between Britain and Jamaica, where he had built a squat concrete house called "Goldeneye" as a home for his interminable Eton photographs. His friend Noel Coward found the building aesthetically unacceptable, and enjoyed directing people to the nearest "Golden eye, nose and throat clinic".

Fleming was by this time on a bottle of gin and 70 cigarettes a day, but managing to turn out



Fleming displayed an 'easy unctuousness'

Photo: Hulton-Deutsch

Bond books fairly rapidly. The combination of pace, thrills, gimmicks and journalistic detail gave them an immediate popularity in post-war Britain. They sold well from the start, assisted by his gift for self-promotion. (When reading the proof of an interview, he insisted to the journalist that his polka dot bow-tie was knotted not "loosely", but "with Churchillian looseness".) His crude mixture of nihilism and opportunism made him an impressive sycophant, shamelessly flattering anybody with power in the world of books and newspapers.

By his early fifties, Fleming was looking old and ill. He took to "lunging suggestively" at anybody he found sexy, fortified by alcohol and his conviction that "all women love semi-rape". With the face of a bloodhound out in the sun and a "habitual expression of controlled fury relieved occasionally by a stark smile", he was not great company.

Despite the breakdown in their relationship, he and Annie remained married, consorting tiredly with people who shared their names with counties or London boroughs. But her more intellectual friends found both him and the success of Commander Bond ludicrous, which made Fleming feel angry and misunderstood. "Thunderbird waits morosely for midday," she wrote to Evelyn Waugh, "when he joins the golf people and drinks".

Soon he was dead, but even the sequel is dismal. His only son, a confused, fractious boy with a firearms obsession, killed himself in his early twenties. Fleming's books have faded, and all that remains are the dilated Bond films, to be dusted down for their annual Boxing Day outing. This is a good biography, but I find it hard to recommend it to anybody. Fleming was like a phantom of James Bond, with all his faults and limitations but none of his virtues. I did not enjoy reading about him.

All you need to know about the books you meant to read

by Gavin Griffiths

This week:
WAVERLEY
by Sir Walter Scott (1814)

Plot: *Waverley* is the first great historical novel and should be ranked alongside Stendhal's *The Charterhouse of Parma* or Tolstoy's *War and Peace*, both of which are bathed in the blaze of Scott's molten genius.

The novel opens just prior to the '45 Jacobite rebellion. Mild-mannered, simpering Edward Waverley, neglected by his uncle, spends time devouring books on medieval derring-do; he enrolls in the army, seeking romance. Posted to Scotland, he meets kind but anaemic Rose Bradwardine. The tepid couple become mildly involved.

Seeking further romance, Edward whips up to the Highlands where he becomes entangled with a bunch of Jacobite freedom fighters/terrorists. They are led by the suave and calculating Fergus Mac-Ivor. Edward drifts towards Fergus's sister, the sexually compelling but politically naive Flora. Understandably, the English are suspicious of Edward's idiosyncratic choice of chums. In a huff, he defects to the Highlanders' cause.

Our hero meets Bonnie Prince Charlie, witnesses the rebels' victory at the battle of Prestonpans and saves the life of good Colonel Talbot, an English officer. Eventually, the Jacobites are routed but, luckily, Talbot speaks up for Edward.

Fergus and his team are executed, Flora rejects Edward and chooses, instead, to wither in a convent. On his return to England, Waverley at last embraces the pallid charms of Rose. His various experiences have left little impression.

Theme: The individual seeks freedom yet is enmeshed in the medium of history. Flitting along the borders of Augustan sensibility and Romantic angst, Scott shows two societies locked in destructive opposition: the spontaneous, nostalgic but essentially violent Highlanders against the prosaic, mercantile but law-abiding English. Throughout, Scott maintains a disinterested equilibrium; acknowledging the attributes of both sides, he demonstrates the impossibility of compromise.

Style: Scott does pull off the odd descriptive *tour de force*, but the main body of the prose is written in an uneven, clumping Augustan style, full of abstract vocabulary; this is interspersed with taut, expressive Scots dialect. The tension between the two enacts the unresolved conflict of the novel.

Chief strength: Scott is the "single Shakespearean talent of the English novel" (V. S. Pritchett). His unforced humanity illuminates both prince and peasant, while his deft analysis of historical forces makes even Tolstoy seem a bit mechanical; fair to his characters and their situation, Scott is never self-congratulatory about his authorial stance.

Chief weakness: Scott's attempts at humour. Unfortunately, he has a tendency to rely on comic types with names like Duncan Macwhieble who are not very funny.

What they thought of it then: *Waverley* caused a seismic shift in Europe's aesthetic consciousness. It was consumed from Milan to St Petersburg, spawning historical novels, plays and operas over the entire continent.

What we think of it now: Scott is patronised as a regional writer. There is some scholarly interest, but he is largely unread outside specialist university courses. Given the brilliance of his achievement, this neglect is absurd.

Responsible for: The historical novel (*A Tale of Two Cities*), the panoramic novel (*Middlemarch*), Balzac, Balmoral, Kilts and the Highland Tourist Board.

WIN A LOTUS ELISE

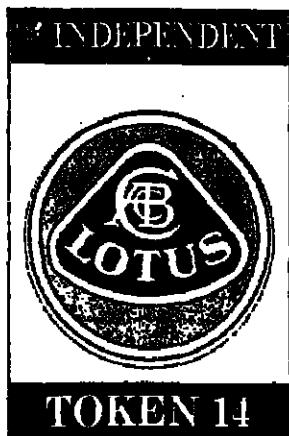
with the
INDEPENDENT



Few cars excite such love and loyalty as a Lotus. Launched in 1948 by the legendary Colin Chapman, the Lotus appeal is summed up by its two most famous marques - Esprit and Elan. Now a new thoroughbred joins the Lotus stable, the Elise. And today you have the chance to enter our Elise prize draw.

As well as receiving the keys to a Lotus Elise, our competition winner will also get one year's free insurance from Norwich Union Club Insurance. This service offers a 24-hour Clubline which, should you have an accident, connects you to a dedicated Club Incident Manager who will take care of the problem.

For your chance to win our prize you must collect six differently numbered tokens from the 14 we are printing in the *Independent* and the *Independent on Sunday*. At least one token must come from the *Independent on Sunday*. We are printing an entry form today along with Token 14. In case you have missed any tokens we will print a number of bonus tokens, starting in tomorrow's *Independent on Sunday*. Rules as previously published.



For further details on Norwich Union's Club Insurance call 0800 529547 for an information pack



in association with **AUTOSPORT** and **CLASSIC**

INDEPENDENT LOTUS ELISE ENTRY FORM

Send your completed entry form, along with 6 differently numbered tokens (including one from the *Independent on Sunday*), to:
Independent/Lotus Elise Prize Draw, PO Box 203, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL7 1TY.
Closing date is 17 November 1995.

SECTION 1

TITLE: (tick as appropriate)

Mr ☐ 1 Miss ☐ 2 Mrs ☐ 3 Ms ☐ 4 Other ☐ 5

Forename(s):

Surname:

Address:

Town:

County:

Postcode:

Home telephone no:

AGE: (tick as appropriate)

18-20 ☐ 21-24 ☐ 25-34 ☐ 35-44 ☐ 45-54 ☐ 55-64 ☐ 65+ ☐

SECTION 2

It would help The Independent if you could tell us about any newspaper you or your partner buy, by ticking the appropriate boxes below for both your *Daily* and *Sunday* purchases. Put a tick against papers you have delivered in the columns 'Delivered at Home'. For papers you buy yourself, please indicate how often you buy by ticking against the relevant papers in either the 'Bought most days' or 'Bought occasionally' columns.

	DELIVERED AT HOME	BOUGHT MOST DAYS	BOUGHT OCCASIONALLY		DELIVERED AT HOME	BOUGHT MOST DAYS	BOUGHT OCCASIONALLY
DAILY				SUNDAYS			
Independent	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ind. on Sunday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guardian	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Observer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fin. Times	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday Teleg.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Telegraph	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday Times	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Times	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mail on Sun.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Daily Express	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sun. Express	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Daily Mail	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sun. Mirror	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Daily Mirror	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				

We may occasionally send you details of offers from ourselves, or other companies, which we think would interest you. If you do not wish to receive these mailings, please tick the box ☐

The myth of Eden

A brave ecologist argues powerfully that nature can never return to its pre-human state. By Richard D North

Man is very uncomfortable about his power to wreck nature. Indeed, nature was famously declared to have come to an end by the environmental writer Bill McKibben in 1989. McKibben declared that man had got into two of the engine-rooms of life: we had altered the climate and were altering the genetic make-up of life. No longer could nature be seen as the great Other, immutable and separate. Man had lost one of the great constants, which - like God - served as a model both moral and practical for our busy but unformed works in and on the world.

This gloomy thinking was built on a particular reading of a relatively new science, ecology. This new amalgam of biology, ethology (the study of animal behaviour) and mathematics implied to many of its most famous and widely-revered adherents that nature exhibited three main characteristics: it was stable, it was fragile, and it was co-operative. There was much discussion about the idea that plants and animals formed communities headed for a sort of steady-state perfection, and man was all that interrupted and destroyed a state which was truly natural and to be admired.

This is such a beautiful set of ideas, so morally instructive, that it seems a sort of sacrilege to suppose that it might be flawed. It is the value of writers such as Stephen Budiansky to be able to show that very few real ecologists have ever held them, and that the pseudo-ecologists (as one

Nature's Keepers:
The New Science of
Nature Management
by Stephen Budiansky
Weidenfeld, £20

must call many conservationists) have usually taken a particular moment in history, described it as perfect, and sought to return us to it, simply on the grounds that they believe that that is the moment when a particular habitat was unspoiled by the white man.

Thus, conservationists see an African savannah with lots of wild animals and few humans and think we should make African parks like that. They forget that white men saw Africa at a moment when disease had whacked the human population to rare lows. The same whites did not realise that Africans had burned and returned the savannahs into the grassy expanses which were taken to be God's work.

Fire is Budiansky's biggest single theme. In many North American woodlands, it has both been natural (pre-existing human interference) and deeply human: the Native Americans burned prairies and forests. In Scotland, fire made the grouse moors, whose gamekeepers Budiansky dares to eulogise as preservers of both grouse and raptors.

For Budiansky, it is important to understand that man has for ever and ever been an intrusive feature. Our ideas of the natural - the primordial and pre-existing - often enshrine a paradisaical

scene which has usually, had we but known it, been vastly altered by the simple, primitive, tribal peoples we are enjoined to admire as existing alongside nature without damaging it. But they also ask us to re-read the ecological writings of the great founders of the discipline, such as Arthur Tansley, who by 1935 was trying to derail the machine which had already mythologised almost all the wrong ideas in ecology and ignored almost all its true lessons.

Budiansky is a science journalist and a mathematician: he is a numerate as well as a literate revisionist, and relishes his role. He weighs into conventional thinking with a will, but without bile. He roots his argument in research material ranging over 100 years. He is not saying that anything goes; he is not celebrating any and all actions of mankind: his re-writing of what is natural does not condone crassness. He is, rather, saying that man's hand is everywhere and has been for so long that we cannot imagine, let alone recreate, a pre-human world. Nor can we ever know quite enough to manipulate the world's habitats and all their denizens into any particular desired earlier state.

But we can, he says, study the natural world with such an eye for detail that our management of it will preserve vast variety alongside our own big and legitimate demands for farms, roads and factories. This may not be an attractive agenda for romantics, but this book goes a long way to explaining why there is no practical alternative to it.

sects. pl

Forbidden f

Under the spotlight

Demythologising Tennessee Williams. By Peter Parker

In December 1938, Thomas Lanier Williams III entered a play contest organised by New York's prestigious Group Theatre. Since the \$500 prize was on offer for writers under 25, Williams knocked a couple of years off his age, claiming that he was born in 1914 rather than 1911. At the same time, he adopted the geographically inaccurate pseudonym of Tennessee Williams. He won an award, and it might be said that he never looked back – not, at any rate, without substantially mythologising what had gone before.

The son of catastrophically mismatched parents, Williams was born in Columbus, Mississippi, but brought up in St Louis. During his youth he was caught between his hard-drinking, poker-playing, bullying salesman father and his genteel, religious, puritanical mother. The personality of his older sister, Rose, disintegrated under the pressure of family tensions, but Williams sought refuge in writing: if he never found a great deal of happiness, he at least managed to stay out of the madhouse. The history of the Williams family as offered in Lyle Leverich's new biography is the most detailed we are likely to get – too detailed in places, with the most trivial of letters and diary entries quoted at unnecessary length. That said, he has managed to cut through the fanciful thicket of legend that sprang up around Williams, much of it promoted by Williams himself, either directly in interviews and his highly unreliable volume of *Memoirs*, or indirectly in his plays, which frequently dramatise aspects of his own life and personality. Leverich refers politely to Williams's "inclination to re-create his life in keeping with remembered emotions", and his assiduous research has led him to uncover a rather more prosaic truth.

The mental instability and eventual incarceration of Rose had a profound effect on her brother. Williams liked to suggest that her problems arose largely from her mother's inability to accept that a mature daughter might have sexual feelings. This led to Rose undergoing a leucotomy, a story "confirmed" as it were in Williams's most lurid play, *Suddenly Last Summer*, which ends with the shrieking, devouring mother figure of Mrs Venable being wheeled off stage, demanding that a "bideous story" (of unspeakable sexual appetites) should be "cut" out of her niece's brain. Although

Tom: The Unknown

Tennessee Williams

by Lyle Leverich

Hodder & Stoughton, £25

sexual repression undoubtedly played a part in Rose's decline, Leverich shows that the sheer aimlessness of her life was equally deleterious. "Unbalanced minds are so much more interesting than our dreary sanity is," Williams wrote, "there is so much honesty, and poetry among them." Rose's schizophrenic ravings, frequently peppered with obscenities, show scant evidence of this, and at the time they clearly disgusted Williams almost as much as they did his mother.

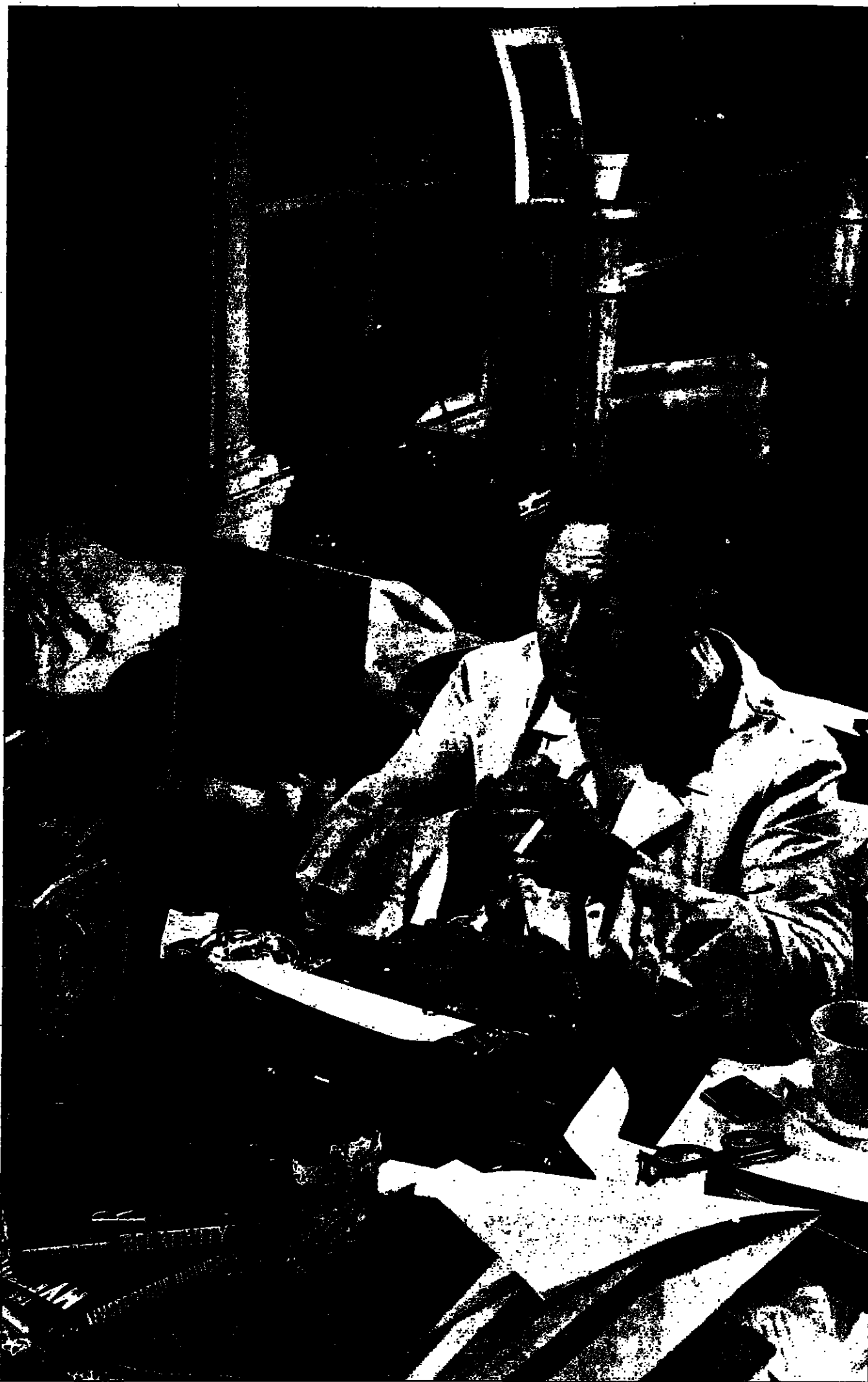
Williams himself suffered some form of breakdown, brought on largely by having to do a tedious and tiring job with the shoe company that employed his father. Leverich makes much of Williams's journals, suggesting that they show a struggle "against the threat of madness". In fact, they seem little different from the self-obsessed ramblings of many frustrated adolescents who believe they have a gift for writing. What is significant is that they were started when Williams was in his mid-twenties rather than in his teens.

This capacity for self-dramatisation is, of course, at the root of Williams's work. The director of his first staged play commented: "There was this amazing thing about Tom: he could sit down at a typewriter and write a characterisation and dialogue for a character that wasn't part of any play... You could take a page or pages of dialogue he wrote, give them to an actor, and just put a spotlight on him, and anyone who just happened to walk into the theatre couldn't turn away from the strength of it." Williams has always been regarded as the major poet of the American stage, but the heightened language of his plays owes less to actual poetry than to the delicious rapture of self-absorption. Williams did in fact write poetry, much of which was published and most of which – judging from the examples given here – is unremarkable. It was only when he channelled his lyric gifts, using the conduit of (usually female) dramatic characters, that he found his true voice.

It is also probably true to say that Williams only properly matured as a writer when he finally acknowledged his homosexuality, which until the crucial year of 1938 had been strenuously repressed. It was in December of that year that he first went to live in New Orleans where he took a hedonistic plunge into the city's French Quarter. "I am a deeper and warmer and kinder man for my deviation," he claimed, "more conscious of need in others, and what power I have to express the human heart must be in large part due to this circumstance."

There is not, sadly, much evidence of depth, warmth or kindness in the youthful Williams as depicted here. Not that Leverich is an unsympathetic biographer: indeed, his patience almost matches that of Williams's saintly agent, Audrey Wood, who emerges as the true hero of the book. Like Wood, Leverich believes in Williams's genius; but he also believes that geniuses live in a different world from the rest of us. Of Williams's maniacal laugh, which embarrassed or irritated all who heard it, he writes: "In a sense, the laugh could be taken as a trait of the artist: a different perspective, as though from his Olympian post he could enjoy a privilege of the gods, seeing humour in the folly, even the tragedy, of mortals." This sort of guff occasionally infects Leverich's otherwise illuminating remarks about the evolution of the playwright.

Leverich was authorised by Williams himself to write a biography, but after the playwright's death he was blocked at every turn by the late Maria St Just, a vainglorious would-be actress whom Williams had imprudently appointed to oversee his estate. Leverich's tenacity and industry are positively heroic, and he has uncovered numerous important influences, from literary mentors and lovers to those, such as a certain Stanley Kowalski, whose names and characters Williams later appropriated; but the book is in need of a firmer editorial hand. At almost 600 pages (excluding notes and index), it is undoubtedly far too long – especially since it covers only the first half of Williams's life, ending with the triumphant Broadway premiere of *The Glass Menagerie* in 1945. Although the book provides much that is new, important and fascinating, the emerging pattern of Tennessee Williams's development is too often obscured by great clots of marginally relevant detail.



'The delicious rapture of self-absorption': Tennessee Williams in New York, 1948

Picture: W. Eugene Smith/Magnum

No sects, please, we're British

Christopher Hitchens attacks Mother Teresa; Mother Teresa defends herself; Robert Winder referees

There isn't much doubt that Mother Teresa is an icon. An Albanian nun who has taken the biblical injunction to love thy neighbour more seriously than most of us could bear, she has devoted her long life and great energy to the plight of the poor. In so doing she has become one of the reference points for moral debate in the west – Florence Nightingale meets St Francis of Assisi.

But where there are icons, there shall iconoclasm be also. Christopher Hitchens's new book is a sharp attack on her sainted status. He pores over pictures of Mother Teresa embracing the Duvaliers, accepting money from crooks such as Charles Keating, and praising Ronald Reagan's unhappy policy towards Ethiopia. He sees her not as a holy example of pure love in

The Missionary Position by Christopher Hitchens, Verso, £7.95

A Simple Path by Mother Teresa, Rider, £7.99

action, but as the head of a Catholic multinational, a zealot reveling in the misery of the have-nots.

Not everyone will agree with this uncharitable interpretation. Indeed, there might seem to be worthier targets for Hitchens's invective scorn. Maybe it is a sign of the curious kind of secular humanism finds itself in when it comes to do-gooders. To be sure, charity can have a Marie Antoinette-ish streak; it can seem merely a balm on the conscience of the rich – grease on the wheels of the machine that produces such destruction in the first place. And

there is in Mother Teresa's own book plenty of evidence to favour Hitchens's thesis. The book has been "compiled" with her approval, and at times sounds suspiciously like an annual report. "We are now in over 100 countries." Mostly, though, it reads like a self-help manual: the six essential steps to inner peace. Of course, it is a book about loving God – not a subject on which criticism can say much: it is a matter of faith. But it is noticeably a book about how virtuous it is to do good, not how useful. The emphasis is on the salvation of one's own

soul; the "wretched of the earth", whose voices are not included, are merely the raw material for the spiritual exercises of their superiors. "The poorest of the poor," we learn, "are the means of expressing our love for God." Poverty is "a wonderful gift because it gives us freedom". And suffering is devoutly to be desired because it brings us closer to God – "without our suffering," she said once, "our work would be just social work". These are awkward prescriptions, hard for a liberal, especially a fun-loving one like Hitchens, to swallow. Our suffering. Poverty undertaken freely is one thing – vibrant with the ascetic thrill of renunciation. But the grinding, choiceless poverty of Mother Teresa's "poorest of the poor" is of a very different kind. Non-

believers will struggle to accept that the poor were put here for a purpose, and that this purpose is to help the faithful to win lottery tickets to heaven.

Mother Teresa seems to wish not so much to relieve suffering as to relieve it, to echo the torments of Christ. She takes the view that the poor will always be with us – indeed that they exist to test our love. This is presented as a humble indifference to worldly matters; she is resolutely not "political". But an indifference (or hostility) to change is itself, as Hitchens shows, an extreme political position. In his eyes, her campaign against contraception and abortion is really a way to keep the world full of miserable children, so that she can look after them.

It's quite bitter stuff. But in the

end the intriguing thing about Hitchens's polemic is its slight sense of conservatism. What he really dislikes, you feel, is the evangelising cultish feeling – no sects, please, we're British. His true opponent, perhaps, is not Mother Teresa herself. He does not seriously claim that she is manipulative or hypocritical: there is no suggestion that she uses her impressive fund-raising powers to run a four-Mercedes lifestyle on the quiet.

His real target, one feels, should be the unquestioning, sentimental imagery with which the West is so happy to drape her. And this is not really her fault. It takes some sophistry to blame someone who does so much for not doing more, or for having one eye on heaven while she does it. On the level of

ideas, her fundamentalism might well seem to require opposition, but her work is not just about ideas: it bears tangible fruit. Hitchens might well wish that her assistance came without strings – no prayers with the soup – but the prayers perhaps remain, in the absence of a more equal system in the world, a modest price to pay. While the war of ideas rages, people starve. While we wait for the world to change, someone has to man the bilges. And if it turns out to be someone whose ideas we don't much care for, well, tough. It is one thing to criticise Mother Teresa for her motives, quite another to criticise her work. Perhaps this is why Hitchens doesn't even attempt to. After all, missionaries have a duty to be messianic.

Forbidden fruit

A new anthology of women's erotic writing is sexy, scholarly and full of surprises. By Katy Emck

The opening tale in *The Penguin Book of Erotic Stories by Women* was written in 1882 and its sexual politics are what one would expect for the time. It recounts the seduction of a virginal housemaid by an aristocratic roué. When the loosely-clad Violette throws herself on this man's protection, he experiences a struggle between lust and paternal solicitude. Luckily, Violette trusts him as she would a father, artlessly flinging her arms around him and climbing into his lap. He proceeds to install her in a lamplit room hung with

The Penguin Book of Erotic Stories by Women, ed. A. Susan Williams & Richard Glyn Jones, Viking, £17.99

mirrors and velvet, and things go from there.

There is a wonderful moment when the man, who is also the narrator, gallantly explains "certain articles" of men's "code" of seduction to his "ignorant" lady readers. The paradox, as with Violette's "artless" sensuality, is that this most knowing of tales is written by a woman. Its calculated blend of

disavowed responsibility and seething carnality sets the tone for many of the stories in this fascinating collection, which is as much a history of censorship as of women's erotic writing.

The tales written before the Second World War bear witness to a lost world where sex, especially for women, was thrillingly taboo. Kate Chopin, Katherine Mansfield and

Edith Wharton wrote stories about adultery, low rental passion and incest, but never printed them. Chopin's "The Storm" makes the reader feel as though she is sharing a naughty secret with a schoolfriend; Chopin may have suppressed it because its celebration of adulterous sensuality was provocatively guilt-free.

Intriguingly, an extremely explicit account of sex between a father and daughter by the "otherwise genteel" Edith Wharton is rendered not with disgust but in tones of high excitement. It's rather like discover-

ing that the author of *The Age of Innocence* wore bondage gear beneath her petticoat. The illicit nature of desire gives many of the stories a breathless, furtive quality which can plunge from the sublime to the ridiculous. Gertrude Stein used her rhythmic, rambling style and a lot of confusingly skewed pronouns to capture the masked subtleties of lesbian love. Radclyffe Hall reaches unsurpassed heights of kitsch when she has her gruff heroine return to an earlier life as a horny caveman.

The woman on top stalks

through many of the stories dating from the Sixties onwards, which provide a confident and dazzling tapestry of perversion, whimsy and social critique. Joanna Russ satirises the *Playboy* ethos with a wonderfully obliging Bunny-boy house servant who, it transpires, is a robot. A sorceress-cum-dominatrix manipulates the "pseudo-reality" of her apprenticeship between the sheets. Stories about female sex workers with whips and chains and abject male customers add to the role-reversing bill of fare. In other tales,

female desire becomes a kind of foreign country; less a means of self-discovery or a cause for feminist triumph than a force which tragically alienates us from ourselves and each other.

This scholarly anthology is both a cultural history and a literary odyssey. Ranging from fairytale whimsy to postpunk invective, from fables of oppression to those of liberation, it is full of unforeseen delights, surprising us into reshaping our thoughts about familiar writers, about sexual politics and about the meaning of "erotic" itself.

8
booksTwilight on
the lawnFerdinand Mount's new novel is utterly English
and infused with a sense of faded splendour

The Liquidator by Ferdinand Mount, Heinemann, £14.99

Judging from the recent increases in Ferdinand Mount's output, the role of editor of the *Times Literary Supplement* – Mount's day job since 1991 – can't be unduly exacting. At any rate, an author who in the first quarter century of his career managed a paltry four novels, has since 1992 risen to the lightning extravagance of three in as many years. The- matically, Mount's books follow no set pattern – *The Man Who Rode Amersand* (1975), for instance, is a portrait of a gentleman rider based on the author's own father, while *Umbrella* (1994) is a historical number on the life of Lord Aberdeen. Drawing them together, perhaps, is a connoisseur's eye for musty English decline, and it is significant that the sequence in which his new novel reposes is now billed as *A Chronicle of English Twilight*.

Twilight features largely in *The Liquidator*, which opens in a quintessential Mount setting: a time-warped suburban tennis club, its *habitués* grimly conscious that both premises and membership will end up by having seen better days. Here, on still-dappled lawns, assembles a varied cast: Gus, the wraith-like narrator; Tony and Josie, the "golden couple" on whom the story turns; and its grand panjandrum, Josie's father, a rapacious insolvency accountant named Guoffrey Pagan-Jones. Desperately emulous of Tony's dapper ways and presumed destinies (he seems booked to take on Pagan-Jones's lucrative insolvency practice as well as his daughter), Gus is pulled up short when the relationship breaks apart and Pagan-Jones turns nasty. Tony, at first relegated to "disposals" at the extremity of the North Circular, is subsequently thrown out of the firm altogether. Tracked down to an East Coast repertory company and a starring role in a production called *Up Lazzars*, then to an Essex terrace, his star seems irrevocably on the wane.

The seeds of Tony's renaissance, it transpires, lie 80 years and several thousand miles away in the form of a turn-of-the-century English missionary sent out to proselytise in

the Levant. Beatha, who converts and marries a Maronite priest, is a convincing creation, her family background sketched in a few bright threads of language and scene. The disappointments of her married life are borne without complaint when her husband, brought to England and ordained into the Anglican church, reveals himself as a womanising *arriviste*. There is a lucrative inheritance, though, and two generations later his grandson can return to the Middle East to establish himself as a sort of feudal warlord. At which point fate, masquerading as ancient tribal enmity, steps in once more and the newly-widowed Josie, who took the precaution of passing her accountancy exams all those years ago, comes back to London in search of her own heritage.

Full of knowing resonances, lurking symbols (Mary Magdalen, showers of gold) and expert twists, *The Liquidator* specialises in precise linguistic effects. At one point, Gus eats a slice of apple pie which is like "a cross-section of gash breccia in a geology book". At heart, though, the book is another of Mount's chiaroscuros from the post-Imperial twilight, infused with a sense of faded splendour, of the modern world somehow failing to satisfy the yearnings of the disillusioned young people wandering in its shade.

Not everything convinces – the narrative device in which Gus collects his data from a series of raconteurs is rather stagey, and the synchronicity with which minor characters weave in and out of the text is too blatant. An accountant, too, might jib at some of the professional detail, in particular a reference to Ernst & Young (whose *amersand* Mount curiously omits) several years before the firm was actually created. What remains, despite the Powellesque schematics and the obvious contrivance, is an impression of artlessness. There is a kind of deliberate amateurism in the way Mount writes (or rather a concealed professionalism) that is as English as his material, as quite as welcome.



Mount's vision: a cross-section of gash breccia in a geology book. The photograph shows Mount in his study, surrounded by books. The caption is a quote from the book: "At one point, Gus eats a slice of apple pie which is like 'a cross-section of gash breccia in a geology book'." The photograph is credited to "Photograph by John Burt Foster, Jr." and the caption is "The Liquidator by Ferdinand Mount, Heinemann, £14.99." The photograph is a black and white photograph of a man, likely Ferdinand Mount, sitting in a large, ornate chair, possibly in a library or study, surrounded by books.

Off the rails

Christopher Hirst enters
the weird world of the
trainspotter

Platform Souls:

The Trainspotter as

20th-Century Hero

by Nicholas Whittaker

Gollancz, £14.99

Nicholas Whittaker blames "right-on comedians". As traditional comic butts have increasingly become no-go areas, the trainspotter has been adopted as "everybody's favourite wally... a gormless loner with dandruff and halitosis". Certainly, the drably clad, strangely obsessed figures who populate the far end of station platforms have attracted a certain amount of unwanted attention over the last couple of years.

Features editors snatched at the chance to probe this bunch of oddballs. Last year, Stephen Dinsdale's acclaimed play *Anorak of Fire* was based on a trainspotter, though it was not an entirely sympathetic portrayal. (Seduced on a lonely trackside, the hero believes he is bringing his partner to an ecstatic orgasm. In fact, what he hears is the wheezy tooting of an approaching loco.)

Now we have this spirited defence of the spotter's craft, rather in the style of Nick Hornby, the presiding genius of lads' fads. Unfortunately, the auditing of motive units somehow lacks the emotional charge of football or pop music. Dress it up how you will – and Whittaker, a freelance journalist, writes with humour and considerable evocative power – trainspotting just isn't sexy. But there's no reason why the pastime should be so vindictively ridiculed. Protesting about those who direct the weary cliché "Get a life" at trainspotters, Whittaker quite reasonably inquires: "But what life exactly are they talking about? Shopping at B&Q? Visiting McDonalds?"

For anyone who will admit to having had a childhood brush with this now derided hobby, *Platform Souls* brings it all rushing back: the Ian Allan books of engine numbers in which new sightings (known as "cops") were carefully underlined; the desperate panic of trying to jot down a slew of numbers when the train you were on passed an engine-packed siding (today's spotters murmur into Dictaphones).

It was my utter hopelessness at recording three-inch high numerals whizzing by at 70mph which led to the cessation of my trainspotting activities after a one-month involvement at the age of eight. Nicholas Whittaker's career as a hard-core spotter continued for over two decades. Venturing far afield for new cops, he repeatedly criss-crossed the country on Rail Rover tickets and inveigled his way into engine sheds ("bunking"). Eventually, the obsession began to fade for the usual reason: "Glad as I was to have the day alone with Jean, I couldn't help having a twinge of envy as Jinx and Aisde set off to bunk the sheds at Haymarket and Polmadie."

Occasionally, the strangled tones of the caricature obsessional intrude ("We certainly had some rip-roaring fun on our trips") but Whittaker is at his best musing on the minutiae of railways, like the locos named after racehorses: "I imagined two LNER directors sitting in the bar at Kempton Park, sticking a pin in *Sporting Life*."

There remains something a bit creepy about him, both in the meticulous recording of every brand of confectionery consumed during his platform vigils and in the vein of paranoia running through the book. With appalling inappropriateness, he remarks that the transcription of the tapes of the Moors Murderers reminded him of the grilling he suffered when caught bunking an engine shed.

NEW AUTHORS
PUBLISH YOUR WORK
ALL SUBJECTS CONSIDERED
Fiction, Non-Fiction, Biography, Religion,
Poetry, Children's
AUTHORS WORLDWIDE INVITED
WRITE OR SEND YOUR MANUSCRIPT TO
MINERVA PRESS
2 OLD BROMFIELD RD, LONDON SW7 3DD

Who's reading whom?

Colin Dexter, creator of Inspector
Morse, is browsing through
Philip Larkin's *Collected Poems*
1946-83 (Faber)

The honesty is irresistible, but so too the concealed tenderness. The effigy in "An Arundel Tomb" flourishes his right gauntlet in his left hand – but his right hand quietly holds the hand of his missus.

My boyhood reading didn't extend beyond the *Dandy*, and my parents only kept four books in the house, but in the sixth form I read Homer in Greek and was hooked on poetry. I discovered Larkin later and have grown very fond of him. He and Auden will be the two poets who are remembered from the 20th century. Larkin was a miserable old sod and saw things with a very jaundiced eye, but he writes plainly and his poems work because they tap into a common human consciousness.

BORNEO
FIRE

WILLIAM RIVIÈRE

"The climax to this heart-rending tale is beautifully handled"

Doris Lessing

"Rich and impressive... Riviere has challenged Conrad and gone the distance"

John Updike

"As a descriptive novelist he's tremendous"

Piers Huggins

CALL NOW TO ORDER YOUR COPY

A MEMBER OF THE HODDER HEADLINE GROUP

Paperbacks

Reviewed by Emma Hagestadt and Christopher Hirst



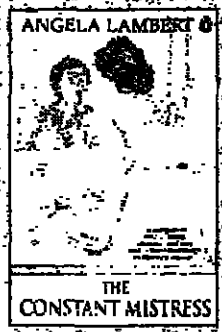
Trash by Dorothy Allison
(Flamingo, £5.99)

The chances of survival aren't good in a Dorothy Allison story. Run-away trucks, botched abortions, and suicide pose the biggest threats – though schoolgirl Shannon Pearl takes the biscuit by igniting herself at a local barbecue. Allison's short stories and poems (many of which formed the basis of her much lauded first novel, *Bastard Out of Carolina*) speak knowingly of the grubby pain of wanting what you cannot have.



Lud Heat and Suicide Bridge by Iain Sinclair
(Vintage, £5.99)

These fragments from the Seventies begin with a dark speculation about Hawkinsmoor's churches (which also inspired Peter Ackroyd). From this high point, the book declines into allusive rambling in a style which owes something to the Beat poets, but there's no denying Sinclair's acuity. Two decades ago, he was quoting from *The Large Scale Structure of Space Time* by one S. W. Hawking.



The Constant Mistress by Angela Lambert
(Penguin, £5.99)

Diagnosed with a fatal illness at the age of 44, Laura decides to spend her last few months in the company of men. Powerful, sophisticated men, men who run banks and law firms; men with names like Bruno, Edouard and Jürgen. A practised storyteller with a soft spot for Eurotrash, Lambert examines what happens to a woman who rejects the lure of domesticity for a more cosmopolitan state of affairs.



Footsteps by Richard Holmes
(Flamingo, £7.99)

Looking at a photograph of Shelley's house near Lucca, Holmes feels "a faint tingling sensation" when he detects a child on the picture's edge: "I felt I was looking at little William, Shelley's dead son". The gulf of a century or two all but disappears as the biographer pursues his subject. These exciting explorations of literary figures – others include R. L. Stevenson and Wordsworth – come close to time travel.



The Ottomans by Andrew Wheatcroft
(Penguin, £5.99)

Ever since Constantine fell, Europeans have regarded the Ottomans with horror and fascination. The first tales to reach them within the city walls were said to have reminded people of "a horror about to eat ripe oranges", and from this history you can understand why Victorians of jewel-encrusted turbans and elegant harems plucked from the pages, and any attempt by the author to disentangle myth from reality falls a little flat.



The Thought Gang by Thomas Fuchs
(Maverick, £5.99)

As a bank robber, Dr Eddie Coffin has several things going against him. He is alcoholic, overweight, accident-prone and a failed philosopher obsessed by words beginning with the letter "Z". With his married sister, Robert, he works on metaphysics during messy binges. The gang were Nietzsche mooks – "Nietzsche was a big fish, but not the big fish, the big fish was... Of course, Hilary, fast-moving stuff."



In Cold Domain by Anne Fine
(Bantam, £5.99)

When Barbara's ambitious mother dies, she inherits the house of her life – a grand Victorian mansion. Barbara's mother, a writer, left the place next door – a tiny, cold, blue-tiled cottage. Set in the garden of the family estate, *Cold Domain* Fine's story involves a heavy dose of emotionalism and barbed wit. All told, it's a good read, but it's a pity that the book's writers of BBC sitcoms hang their heads in shame.



Conflict of Loyalty by Geoffrey Howe
(Pan, £8.99)

Despite its title, most of this book is devoted to ovine service in the great offices of state under Margaret Thatcher. Suddenly, after 550 pages, the story takes on an epic momentum as Howe, sojourned and excluded, prepares to slay the dragon. No, he says, it was unconnected with his devotion, nor had the formidable Espect, Howe anything to do with it. Of course not. It was purely policy, purely Europe.

كتاب من الاميل

country

'I can smell 'em. I can smell where they are'

On Exmoor in the early morning you might bump into grave-digger turned film-maker Johnny Kingdom out shooting deer. By Martin Whittaker

It is just before dawn and Johnny Kingdom is in his element. "Shh..." he whispers. "Hear that?" There's a low bellow coming from the nearby woods. Then another more distant call from a different direction - very eerie. There are two or three red deer stags close by and this is the rutting season.

Suddenly there's the loudest call of all, a harsh roar tearing across the valley and sounding worryingly close in the first morning light.

"Oooh... that's nasty. That's a nasty call, see. If you go out there now and he's on his own, he'll challenge you," murmurs Johnny. He wants to get closer. He wants a better shot.

Putting on his camouflaged hat, he picks up his video camera and we crawl behind a wall, peering over the top. And there they are, just visible among the trees as the sun comes up. There's a magnificent stag stomping around the field, guarding some 20 hinds. As another male approaches the stag throws back his crown of antlers and roars again.

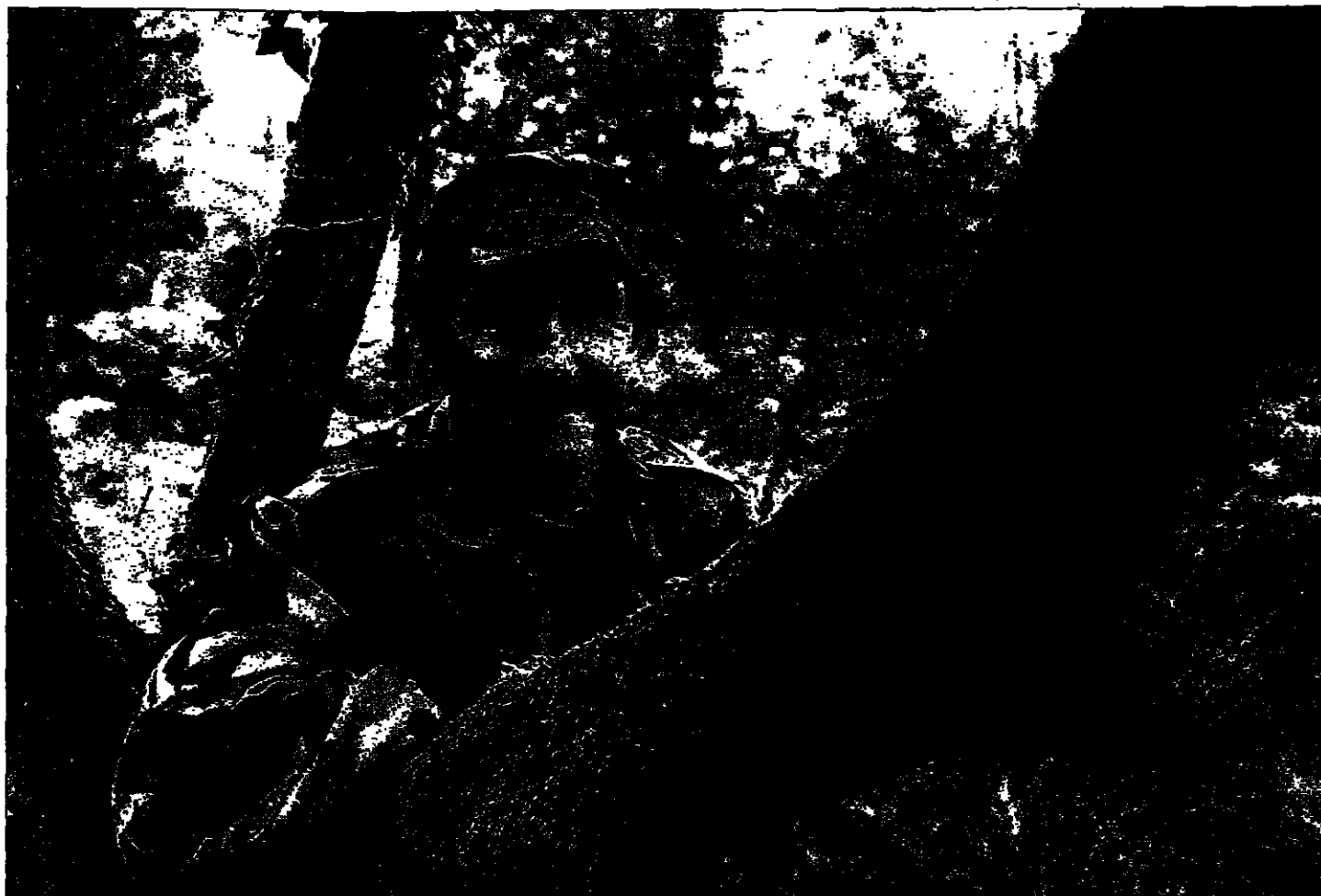
"Oooh - he's a big one," whispers Johnny, camera perched on his shoulder. "I'm going to go closer. You stay 'ere."

Eventually he gets to within 20 yards of the deer, stalking silently, often crawling on his belly, to get close enough to film. He doesn't use big lenses - just a lifetime's experience of tracking and stalking. When he reappears half an hour later he's as pleased as punch. "There's been so much talk about this lovely big stag - he's the biggest wild stag in North Devon."

These wild deer are on an 86-acre estate in Rackenford, North Devon and have been to this spot regularly over the last week. So this has been relatively easy.

Johnny will spend days out on Exmoor tracking deer. Once he spent 12 hours over three days, stuck up a tree above a deer wallow, waiting. Needless to say, he got the shot he wanted.

In his home village of Bishop's Nympton and throughout most of North Devon, film-maker Johnny Kingdom, 57, has become a local hero. Until 14 years ago he made his living digging graves and tree-felling. Then an accident changed everything. He was felling a tree when a winch broke and he was hit in the face, fracturing his jaw in five places. While recovering he borrowed a friend's video camera and experimented with filming wildlife. When a com-



Johnny Kingdom: an encounter with a falling tree changed his life

Photograph: Marc Hill

pensation claim was settled years later, he bought his own camera and editing equipment, and began producing films on video for friends.

To date he reckons he's sold some 10,000 videos. His films are on sale in WH Smith throughout the South-west, and he sells them by mail order throughout the country. They have been praised by professional film-makers and reviewers.

Johnny is short and stocky with hands like shovels. He talks in a gentle Devon brogue which at times sounds almost Irish. The only time he's been away from his native county was two years' National Service in Hong Kong.

Walking across a dewy field with him, ordinary folk see... well, a dewy field. But to Johnny Kingdom it's like a map, with that trail there made by a stag, this one here a fox, those droppings from a roe deer, and so on.

"You know," he says. "I can go in a wood and when the wind's right, I'm not seen," but I know there's a deer up there. I can smell 'em. I can smell where they are."

He still digs graves and is teaching the trade to Craig, the youngest of his two sons. Outside the former council house he shares with his wife

Julie, stand the wooden coffin templates he uses to get graves the right size.

In the back garden what was once neat lawn is now converted into a paddock for Bambi, a three-legged pet deer he found when she was just days old, her leg caught in some wire.

Inside he's converted a former coal shed into his editing studio, and another room is full of boxes of his videos. There's a pile of 480 envelopes waiting to go out, advertising his latest film "Johnny Kingdom's Badger Watch", released next month.

Filming badgers is fraught with difficulty as they're nocturnal. So how did he do it with just a Panasonic camera?

The answer lies on a hillside two miles away. There, above a large set, he's built what can only be described as an adventure playground for badgers. There are wooden ramps, bridges, tunnels, pieces of drainpipe, and a big home-made wheel made from an old cable drum filled with peanuts. A badger turns the wheel to get a reward.

He filmed them from a home-made hide overlooking it all. Incredibly, he lit the badgers starting off with red, which they didn't seem to mind, then gradually introducing ordinary lights.

Johnny says his years of filming and practically living in the animals' environment have led to a greater understanding of wildlife, giving him the confidence he needs to take risks other film-makers might shy away from.

"Yesterday a stag went for me. I made this noise something like a stag and he left his hinds and came up to me - he was just nine yards from where I was standing in the river. But I got the shot I wanted."

"Yes it is dangerous - you should never mess with a big stag. But this is part of the challenge when I'm out filming."

"I've learnt all sorts of things about the deer - the way they box, how they dance, the way they enter the wallow early in the mornings, what time to catch them. It's the same with the badgers. I've been watching the set all the time. I know they pick a certain route every night. I'll film them at play, then let them go off to their own environment to catch worms and that."

"It's taught me a lot and I'm still learning. I don't suppose I'll ever learn it all."

For more information on Johnny Kingdom's films call: 01769-550367



DUFF HART-DAVIS

The wind's got up in Nympsfield

If you visit the village of Nympsfield, high on the Cotswolds near Stroud, you will soon hear someone give vent to a disgusted exclamation of "Sixty kettles!" That, the objectors reckon, would be the average output of the giant wind turbine which threatens to dominate their skyline: that dribble of electricity would be the sole return for allowing a huge, alien structure to disfigure the landscape.

The dispute at Nympsfield has been rumbling since 1992, when Stroud District Council gave permission for a 100ft mast to be erected near the village. The applicant was Western Windpower, a firm run by a young and articulate entrepreneur called Dale Vince, acting with the German firm Enercon.

In November that year the Council gave permission for Western Windpower to erect two E-33s - turbines 165 feet high. For various reasons these have never been built, but now Mr Vince has applied for permission to construct one E-40, a 208ft monster. The villagers have risen up and formed the Cotswold Protection Group, which claims to represent 80 per cent of the population.

Arguments rage about how much power a single E-40 would produce. Mr Vince claims that on average it would satisfy the domestic needs of 1170 people, or 20 per cent of the population of Nympsfield and the neighbouring town, Nailsworth. The villagers maintain that it would take 36 years to produce what one 2,000-megawatt coal-fired station can turn out in a single day.

Noise is another factor much in dispute. Because the E-40 is of advanced design, its advocates argue that it will make scarcely a sound. The villagers claim that the swooshing noise from the 70ft blades will pollute a wide area.

There is also resentment that one small company stands to make money at the expense of the community: the Protection Group's figures show that over 20 years the mast could yield £1m profit. Further, the objectors suspect they are being used as guinea pigs.

Yet the fiercest argument is aesthetic. Should such a structure be allowed in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty? "If this turbine goes up, all protection for the AONB will go out the window," says Ian Blair, a farmer who lives in full view of the site. "This structure would make a mockery of every national and local attempt to protect the Cotswolds. If you allow this one, how will you stop others?" "Nonsense!" says Mr. Vince. "The site is the best you could find. The machine is the best you can get. The visual impact will be minimal."

He also draws attention to the fact that a line of high-voltage electricity pylons already marches past the site, and claims that the villagers are motivated by base motives - "fear of something they don't understand, and jealousy that other people are going to make money."

Having seen how glaringly obvious is the wind-farm at Llandinam in Wales, I cannot believe that it is right to build a big turbine in an AONB. But I do not envy the members of the planning committee who have to take the decision. If they give the mast the go-ahead, they may appear politically correct on the question of renewable energy; but they will incur fierce resentment locally and put the wind up conservationists all over the country.

What's more, I was the only one without a Barbour jacket

Tony Kelly learns to how to handle a 17-hand, one ton shire horse

We swept through a Capability Brown landscape towards an 18th-century mansion. I tugged on the reins and the wagon stopped in front of the elegant stone steps. People stared out of upstairs windows and I half expected a butler to appear, to take our coats and offer us champagne cocktails.

This was the climax to a two-day heavy horse-handling course at Wimpole Home Farm, a National Trust rare breeds centre attached to Wimpole Hall near Cambridge. Our teachers were horseman David Brady - and Prince, a gentle giant of a six-year-old grey shire, 17 hands high and weighing almost a ton.

John was there as a birthday present from his wife: he had dreams of run-

ning cart rides in his home town of Saffron Walden. Peter was on a break from his work with horses as a volunteer at Bradford Industrial Museum; Gillian was reviewing the course for a magazine.

I was the only one without a Barbour jacket. More to the point, I was the only one who knew nothing about horses. But David put me at my ease. "These courses aren't for experts," he said. "Just people who want to have a bit of fun."

We began by "tacking up" - getting the horse ready. David showed us how to lift the heavy brass-studded collar high over Prince's head. Then there was the plough harness, over his back and tail; the girth across his belly; the bridle and bit, the shackles,

the reins... each of us had to go through the performance in turn, while David coached and chuckled and Prince stood patiently being dressed and undressed with only an occasional Polo mint for reward.

Out in the meadow, we learnt East Anglian commands: "Weesh" means go right, "Cuplee" means left. Not forgetting the all-important "Whoa!" We walked Prince around the field on a long rein as David arranged a set of traffic cones into a series of obstacle courses - a straight drive, an S-bend, a slalom. Prince listened and obeyed so well that I barely even had to steer.

The farm was a confusion of autumn smells and noises - manure, wet grass, threshing machines, cattle, goats, pigs, schoolchildren on trips. The children

stared over a gate as we drove Prince around the field, at first on foot and then on a sledge, sitting atop a bale of hay. "Watch how this man does it," I heard one teacher say as I negotiated a sharp turn. Please don't, I was thinking.

"When horses were used on farms, the ploughman would walk for 11 miles to plough a single acre of land," David told us. He grew up on a farm with heavy horses, but by the 1960s shires were almost extinct, with just three registered foals in Britain. "It was the oil crisis which saved them," said David, who invested in horses in the 1970s as insurance against the day when tractors would be no more. Twenty years later, we still have oil but shires are back at work in breweries and heritage centres

across the country.

Walking the horse was fun, but what everyone wants is to get on the wagon. "My father was a carter," David told us as I drove up the gravel drive to the Hall. "He used to come to houses like this, bringing people to New Year balls; he had to wait outside in the wind and rain till 1 or 2am." I didn't make David wait at all. I handed over the reins and Prince clattered back to the stables for a well-earned rest.

Wimpole Home Farm, Arrington, Royston, Herts SG8 0BW (01223 208987). There is a course on 11-12 Nov, then more courses in Spring 1996. The cost is £80 and does not include accommodation or meals.

Tel: 0171 293 2222

property • residential

Fax: 0171 293 2505

<p>London Property</p> <p>Huge warehouse lofts 1,050 sq ft-1,600 sq ft Islington EC1</p> <p>At Dingley Place, EC1 we have converted a former 28,000 sq ft tea warehouse into 14 exclusive and luxury large loft apartments. Superbly designed with features such as glass bricks, wooden floors and sandblasted brickwork, apartments at Dingley Place range from 1,050 to 1,600 sq ft and are fully fitted and ready to move into immediately.</p> <p>Located within walking distance of the 'heart' of Islington and the City of London and starting at £139,500 for a fully fitted 1,050 sq ft apartment, Dingley Place is one loft development you won't have to shell out for! Visit Dingley Place this weekend for a taste of stylish living.</p> <p>For a brochure please call Alex Neil on 0171 234 0288</p>	<p>London Property</p> <p>CANNIBURY PARK SOUTH ISLINGTON, N1</p> <p>Part of England's Heritage in the heart of Islington. Situated in mature landscaped surroundings yet within two miles of The City and only four stops on the Victoria line from Oxford Circus, this classical development offers a selection of elegant, high quality 4/5 bedroom houses and a range of luxury 1, 2 and 3 bedroom apartments. Houses from £565,000. Apartments from £110,000. SHOW HOUSE OPEN THURSDAY TO MONDAY 11.00-4.00pm. 0111 264 2200. 22 Cannibury Park South N1.</p> <p>COPPING JOYCE 0171 359 9777</p>	<p>London Property</p> <p>BERMONDSEY - SE1 from £109,500.00 SIX HUGE LOFT APARTMENTS TELEPHONE CALLINGTON ESTATES LIMITED 0171 403 5334</p>	<p>London Property</p> <p>40-43 CLERKENWELL ROAD EC1</p> <p>The grand ruin entrance hall</p> <p>A spectacular development of newly-converted apartments, ideally situated for The City and West End, and offering a selection of 2 bedroom flats priced between £115,000 and £135,000.</p> <p>Also available are studio, one and three bedroom apartments.</p> <p>Show apartments open Saturdays, 10.30 to 4.30 pm. For weekday appointments call either office of Copping Joyce.</p> <p>COPPING JOYCE 196 SHAFTESBURY AVE WC2 0171 836 2888 329 UPPER STREET N1 0171 359 9777</p>
---	---	--	---

shopping

Gear freaks
The skier

By Sally Williams

Also known as: downhill skier (recreational); racing skier (competitive); cross-country skier (low land); tour skier (high land); free-style skier (performs tricks); heli-skier (likes to be dropped by helicopter on to untracked slopes); "bump" skier (skis down mogul fields very fast); ski bum (blags ski passes, ponies drinks, becomes a guide and rents, along with 14 others, a chalet which sleeps four); "boarder" (aspires to look like one of Nirvana, wears opaque Terminator-style shades and favours a surf board over skis).



Numbers nationally: approx 1 million adult skiers; 700,000 of which ski abroad each year. Britain makes up less than 1 per cent of total global skiing population. Japan is the largest with 13 million skiers.

Favourite haunts: black runs: Corviglia Club in St Moritz; Chosterli in Gstaad; Tatuou in Aspen; Farm Club in Verbier; landing a private plane on the runway at Courchevel; spotting Euro-Royals in Lech; heli-skiing in Kashmir; schussing the slopes of active volcanoes in Hawaii and Ecuador; in the Snow and Rock.

Hazards: moon boots; being crippled by medical bills if insufficiently insured; crippling someone else; ice; avalanches; frost bite; sunburn; a snow-boarder yelling "nice suit" as he whizzes by - he is being sarcastic; wearing C&A gear in chic resorts; your mobile phone ringing as you approach the top of a fast quad chair.

The kit: "function is fashion" this year; so goodbye white fur headbands, fluffy trims and huge zig zags in eye-ballooning colours, and hello Chris Bonington rugged-ranger chic; the Toldka Tribe just-a-shade-off-primary range; fake fur; silvery grey (the hottest colour) and multiple layering systems. When it comes to skiing, the big question is not how best to do a snowplough, but will your once red-hot fluorescent Christmas-wrap anorak now be laughed off the piste. Last year British skiers spent £69.7m on ski wear. But if getting kitted out for your weekend in Aviemore costs more than the accommodation and petrol put together.

The gear: Bogner one-piece ladies snow suit with exquisitely embroidered gaucho horse and rider, rollaway hood and zip ankle cuffs, £1,429; Poliso technical ski sock, £7.99; Raichle Flexon Comp boots with Thermoflex inner boot and Sidas orthotic

footbeds, £445; Lowe Alpine Aleutian fleece Kiska sweater, £66; Duofool thermal underwear, £40; Salomon Fronterra 6 GTX Aprés Boots, £65.

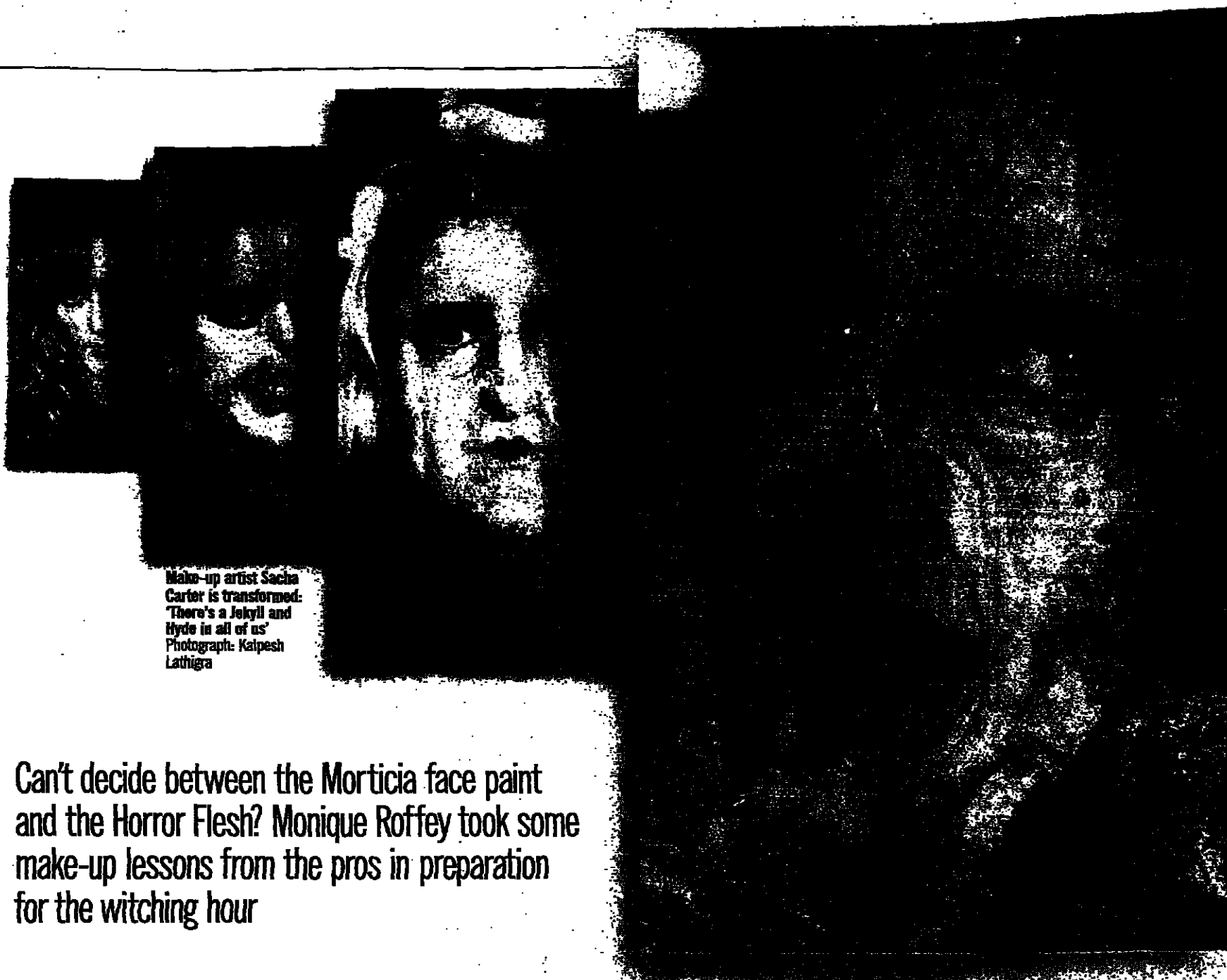
Accessories: Salomon Prolink skis, internally reinforced with titanium and externally supplemented by regulators and plastic struts to dampen vibrations, £429; Market M1 Turbo SC bindings, £200; Goode Inter-Loc integrated glove and ski pole system, £160; Revo sunglasses, £193; Snow and Rock Off Piste Safety Pack with avalanche probe, Ortovox shovel, survival bag; first aid kit and whistle, £189 (an FI avalanche transceiver is also recommended, £220); Spenco blister kit, £4.40.

Optional extras: Snow and Rock Ski Boot Clinic check-up: from £10; On the Piste with Eddie "the Eagle" Edwards video (including, if required, individual message of up to 10 words), £10.99; Aloe Ice Sunburn Jelly, £5.99; Snow and Rock retractable ski pass holder, £3.99.

Ultimate gadget: Avocet Vertech Ski watch, £129.95. If you want to calculate how many vertical metres (or feet) you skied in that last run or even during last week; if you want to know your rate of decent, number of runs, be able to forecast the weather, navigate mountains, and even know what time it is, this is the watch for you. A thermometer, barometer, chronometer; altimeter; the only prerequisite for this easy-to-operate high-precision instrument is a thick wrist.

Bare essentials: gloves £12.99; hat, £6.99; goggles £10; polo neck top, £7.99; Polar fleece, £29.99; one piece suit, £79.99; ski and boot hire £35-£75.

Ultimate experience: carving perfect "eights" through the snow; skiing on virgin powder snow; cashmere shopping at Gstaad with Ivana Trump.



Make-up artist Sacha Carter is transformed: There's a Jekyll and Hyde in all of us
Photograph: Kalpesh Lathiga

Can't decide between the Morticia face paint and the Horror Flesh? Monique Roffey took some make-up lessons from the pros in preparation for the witching hour

I want to be a ghoul

"It makes you really want to act the part," says FX designer Sacha Carter spoofing a ghoulish covergirl pose. She's referring to her now witchy face which her partner David White has just taken an hour and a half to apply. In that time, with the aid of a prosthetic nose and warty chin, some grease paints, a pair of sculpted acrylic teeth, milky white contact lenses, black hair spray, some autumn leaves and cobwebs, he has transformed Sacha, a flaxen-haired, peachy-skinned beauty, into a garbled, rotten-toothed hag.

The pair from Carter White FX, a make-up effects company that specialises in prosthetics and animatronics, the art of making lifelike moving creatures for films and television. "We can design and make anything," says David, "from a life-sized animatronic ape to an oversized walking, talking, belching bacterial germ. We read the script first, make some designs, and take it from there."

The process of making prosthetics is a lengthy and time consuming job. Two or three days of pre-production went into the making of Sacha's standard hag/witch prosthetic alone. David explains the steps. "A cast must be taken of the actor's face. Then the prosthetic is sculpted over the top of it in Plasterlene. Fibreglass is then brushed over the Plasterlene to make a mould. When that has set and dried, foam latex is pumped into it to form the prosthetic. When it has been baked in an oven, the prosthetic is painted for effect and only then is it ready to apply to someone's face."

When you think that prosthetics can only be used once and that hundreds of them are needed on some movies, the process seems mindboggling. David White started in the industry 14 years ago, when he became fascinated with the special effects in films like *The Evil Dead*. He barked off from art school and rang round all the studios, eventually being hired as an assistant on *Krull*, at Pinewood, for £48 a week.

Since then he has made everything from the 15ft dancing plant in *The Little Shop of Horrors* to Mole's nose and Rat's ears in the forthcoming *Wind in the Willows* film. He also did the moving, talking

boil in *How To Get Ahead in Advertising*, and most notably, Robert de Niro's head-to-toe makeover in Kenneth Branagh's *Frankenstein*. The last two decades have seen a massive boom in the special make-up effects industry.

An American Werewolf in London, made in 1981, was the first film to win an Oscar for make-up effects and really drew attention to the industry," says Sacha. Up until then, although prosthetics had been around in a less flexible form (the witch in *The Wizard of Oz* for example), early horror films, like *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, had relied heavily on lighting and shadows to create effects.

Then came an American make-up artist called Dick Smith, who revolutionised the industry with horror film classics like *The Exorcist*, *The Fury* and *Altered States* as well as giving away many of his secrets by writing a DIY make-up book. On the back of these films the Schlock Horror genre was born, spawning *The Evil Dead* and the *Nightmare on Elm Street* series, and a whole host of straight-to-video exploding head and rubber monster movies which were extremely popular with the middle American teen market.

While there is money to be made from splatterfests, the pair prefer the more stylish cinematic horror classics. "Like *Alien*," says Sacha. "It was one of the first movies to be subtle about horror. Sometimes you saw the creature, sometimes you didn't. What they did was 'suggest' that there was something really, really horrid on board the spaceship, which is far more frightening than seeing it up close."

How to do horror make-up ...

Fake nose and chin: use mortician's wax from a theatrical make-up shop. Warm it up and sculpt into noses, ears, chins.

Fake teeth and nails: cut false nails into points, file down into grooves, dirty up with paints. For teeth, use plastic vampire ones, or peanuts stuck to a chewing-gum palate. Colour them red with food dye.

Eyes: buy yellow or red tinted eye drops from theatrical make-up shops.

Where to buy it...

BIRMINGHAM Masquerade, Hagley Road West. Horror and theatrical make-up, vampire and devil kits, £3.99, etc.

CAMBRIDGE Wardrobe, 27 Cornwell Road. "We have whatever casually simulation you want!" Blood comes in "vein" or

"artery", they also do bullet holes, burns, scars ...

LONDON C H Fox, 22 Tavistock Street, WC2. Sell spine-tingling special effects such as worms emerging from ears, cut-open skulls, stick-on warts, and "wound filler" to put into a latex cut. Ugghh. Escapade, 150 Camden High Street, NW1. Try their purple or white Horror Flesh (£2.99). Screen Face, 24 Powis Terrace, W11. Horror make-up includes stick-on noses, ears, scars.

LOUGHBOROUGH Stage Services Prince William Road. Staff trained in face painting, they also sell scar wax, "corpse" face paint, etc. REDDITCH Reddi's Fancy Dress Hire, 149 Ipsley Street, Smethwood. Choose white face paint, or *The Mask* masks.

Such subtlety, such elegance, such good taste

Caroline Donald swoons at the colours of 'Pride and Prejudice'

Sunday nights are going to be bereft of a certain swoon factor after tomorrow and I'm not talking about the heavenly Mr Darcy, or even the gorgeous bosomy frocks as worn by the Misses Bennets.

Nup. It's those colours on the walls. Such subtlety, such elegance, such simple good taste. Suddenly rag-rolled terracotta and screaming cobalt seem violently intrusive, and dull old magnolia appears positively vulgar in comparison with elegant shades of stone, sand, pea green and biscuit.

There are now several companies specialising in "historical" colours. The lead-based paints that would have been used to cover the panels and walls of the formal rooms of Jane Austen's day are now banned by EC directive except for exterior use on some listed buildings. House painters tended to have rather a low life expectancy due to the build-up of lead compounds in their lungs when they were rubbing paint down to stop it being shiny. But, as the *Wonderbra* will produce the same sumptuous effects as the 18th-century cosseting worn in the production, so many of the paint colours can be obtained in modern versions.

Many of the paints supplied

to the *Pride and Prejudice* set designers came from Farrow & Ball. Their "dead flat" oil will achieve much the same effect as the old lead-based paints, while keeping the mortality rate down.

"The only shortcoming is that it is too good a paint," says Tom Helme, decorative adviser to the National Trust. "It contains titanium which covers very well. Under the old system, you would have had to build up lots of different coats. There are lots of 18th-century accounts of each coat being a different colour."

Farrow & Ball are also the paint suppliers to the National Trust, providing stately homes with colours such as Mouse's Back and the infamous Oliment Pink. The National Trust colours are toned down, so that the walls do not shout at you to the detriment of paintings and furniture. But the firm has just brought out a new colour card, expanding from the original 57 Trust colours to 95. The new colours are brighter than the Trust ones, and include some from the company's archives, such as Menagerie (an 18th-century terracotta) and Pale Hound (light yellow), and others that people have asked them to match during renovation.

But the new colours are far from garish. "Some people say, 'Oh, but originally the colours were very bright,'" says Mr Helme, "but they faded much quicker than nowadays. Those colours are encapsulating one teeny percentage of a house's time. People think paint analysis is scientific, but there is a lot of interpretation in it."

Although dead flat oil is perfect for displaying Canaletto's and Gainsborough's, Farrow & Ball also supply an estate emulsion for more general use. It is made up to an early formula and so is very flat. Modern emulsions are "too rubbery," says Mr Helme.

The other paint medium popular in the 18th century was distemper, though this would only have been used for hallways and servants' quarters in grand houses. It produces a lovely chalky cover which can be recreated by using a modern oil-bound distemper (again, Farrow & Ball supplies this). Nowadays it's suitable for farmhouses and cottages, but not for use in flats in smoggy towns, as it does not wash well. As to the exact colours that were used in the 18th century, both Tom Helme and Gerry Scott, production designer on *Pride and Prejudice* are reluc-



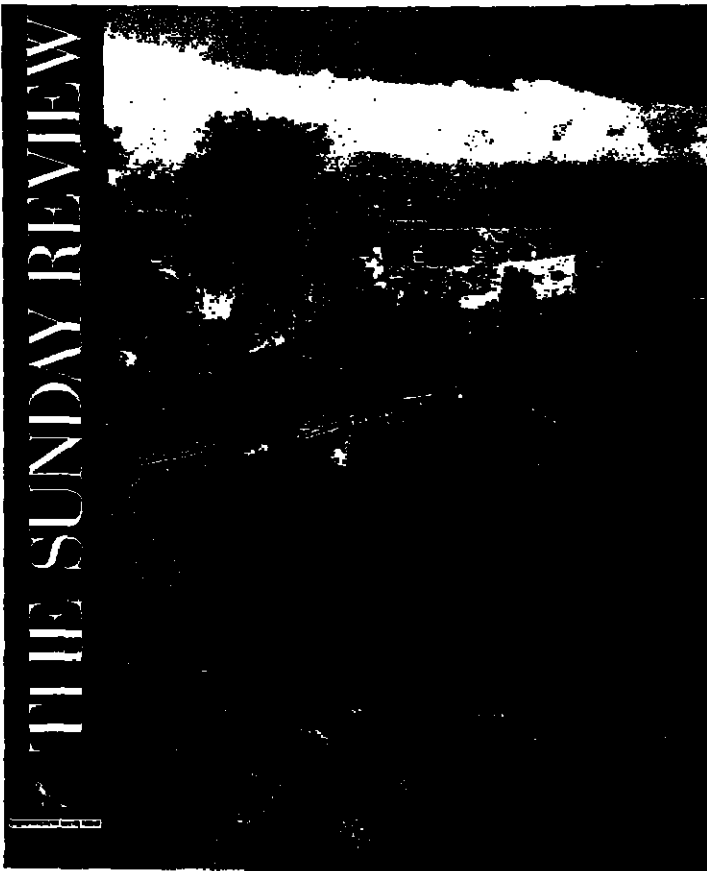
Mary Bennet (Lucy Briers) 'delights' her audience in front of an authentic biscuit-coloured wall
Photograph: BBC

tant to commit themselves specifically, although the house painters of the 18th century would have been working within a fairly limited palette of earth pigments. "Houses were painted more frequently than we would imagine," says Mr Scott. "If the Bennets were fashionable enough to wear muslins, they were fashionable enough to have lighter walls." In other words, they would have painted the wooden panelling.

We would associate lilacs, greys, pale blues, pea greens with the eighteenth century, but, as Mr Scott points out: "If you wanted to prove a certain colour was used, you could. There's nothing neat about it ... it comes down to how you use it. If we put a piece of brown cord together with an orange carpet, we know exactly where we are."

Quite. A long way from Longbourne.

Farrow & Ball, Uddens Estate, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 7NL (01202 876141)



It's a funny olde worlde: the best English villages just grewed; but what happens when planners (and princes) create an idealised rural past?

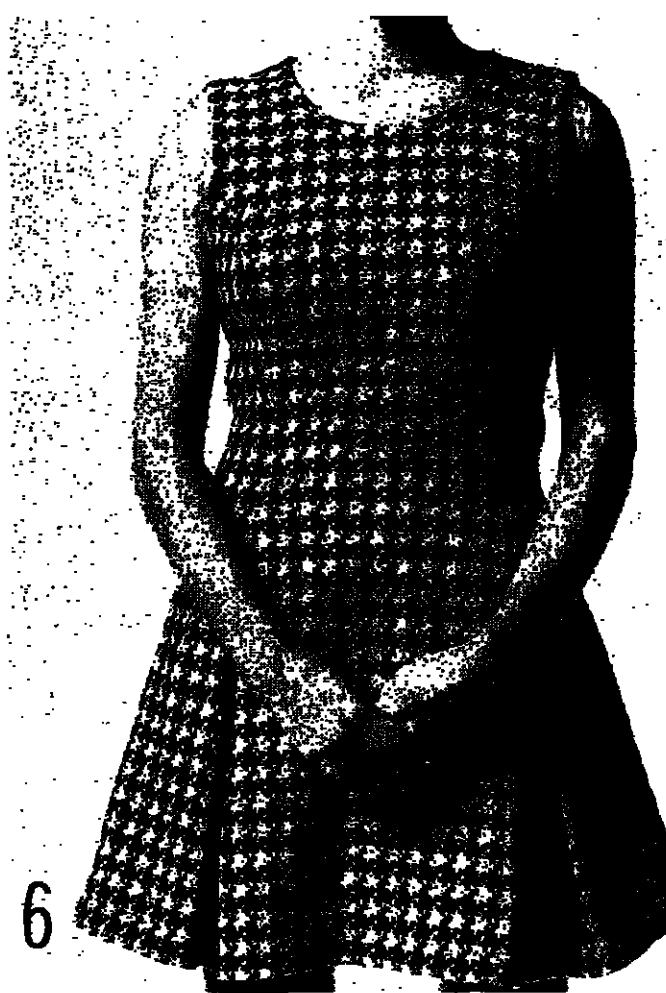
Plus: a house of ill repute - Matthew Parris chronicles sleaze, scandal and sin in the mother of parliaments

And: crossing swords with Spike Lee, and Helen Fielding at the dogs

IN TOMORROW'S INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY

Six of the best dogtooth

Tooth of the dog



1 Warehouse bag, £14.99, and John Lewis umbrella, £9.95. A simple bag for that splash of dogtooth if you don't want a whole outfit in it, and, similarly, a modish broly to keep off the drizzle. John Lewis enquiries on 0171-629 7711

2 Dorothy Perkins, jacket £39.99 and skirt £19.99. The suit worn by Helena Christensen in the ad campaign. Many of the high street shops, from M&S to Karen Millen, have a similar look, but this viscose number is easiest on the wallet. Enquiries 0171-291 2604

3 Whistles, £195. Single-breasted, beautifully cut stretch jacket, teamed with flat-fronted trousers (£95) with jodhpur seams and turn-ups. The check is small enough to be described as puppy tooth. Enquiries 0171-487 4484

4 Warehouse, £89.99. Dogtooth double-breasted jacket to mid thigh. A neat, fashionable coat that may not entirely block out the winter chill, but will be a great little update to any wardrobe. From Warehouse branches nationwide. Enquiries 0181-910 1400

5 Burberry, jacket £360 and trousers £145. This single-breasted two-button jacket is fully lined with matching slim leg trousers. Together they make up a classic sensible suit to last and last. From Burberry, 165 Regent Street, London W1 (0171-734 5928)

6 Georges Rech, £315. The kick pleats give this wool dress a little twist on the average shift, and the size of the check gives it a dynamic edge. Pricey, but well constructed. From Georges Rech, 181-182 Sloane Street, London W1. Enquiries 0171-235 3343



bazaar

Checkout

Betty's in York

Betty's, 6-8 St Helen's Square, York. Open 9am-5pm including Sundays

Atmosphere The kind of cake shop that comes to you in dreams - a window display glowing with shiny cherry-succled cakes and gingerbread soldiers; inside sleek marble surfaces, glass cases filled with truffles, scones, baps, fondants, pastries, and pink-cheeked assistants in lace caps, frilly white shirts and black stockings.

Stock On tidy pine shelves behind the counter, a mind-boggling array of breads, from plain old white bloomers and small granary loaves, to pesto ciabatta, £1.35, muesli bread ("moist, close-textured loaf with whole hazelnuts, succulent apricots and vine fruits"), £1.50, and even a "wholemeal Turkistan cob", 98p. In the glass cake case, artistic green and pink confections jostle with more humble but possibly more edible tea cakes, 35p, or orange and lemon scones with citrus peel, 35p.

What to buy: This weekend, Halloween treats like the Biber pumpkin, "a Swiss speciality with roasted hazelnuts and almonds, flavoured with honey and cinnamon", £2.35, a friendly lebkuchen witch, £2.95 or a gingerbread ghost, 35p.

What else to do: Turn right into the busy tea rooms, where elderly ladies and gents sip "fine Assam" from Betty's sister company Taylor's, at £1.58 a pot, or "a cafe-tiere of Christmas coffee", £3.98. Peckish? Assuage the pangs with mushrooms on toast, £3.98, or toasted teacake, £1.32.

Why not to go: Because you live in Harrogate, Ilkley, or Northallerton, where they have their own branches of Betty's, or you prefer to send off for "Betty's By Post" dreamy mail-order Christmas catalogue filled with treats such as white Belgian chocolate polar bears, praline fir cones, or sloe gin fruit cake. Ring 01423 886055.

Good thing

Storm lighter, £12.95

The storm season is upon us, and the beleaguered nicotine addicts who huddle outside no-smoking offices try desperately to shield their lighters from the howling winds.

What they need is Nauticalia's storm lighter. Originally made by World War I soldiers from spent bullet cases, the stout brass lighter was taken up by naval types. It has a sliding guard that shields the flame from Force 9 or more; when lowered it puts out the flame and protects the wick from spray - from Atlantic breakers, or passing cans. Order from the Maritime Trust's Nauticalia catalogue: 01952 253333.

Mad thing

Dr Dreadful's Food Maker, £25

For Halloween, a wonderfully yucky toy that children just love. Chemistry set meets cookery lesson, as kids are invited to fill a day-glo skull with "Monster Brains" powder, add water, watch it froth up, then eat it. Or they can make and mould jelly spiders, flies and vampires. Others in the set include Doctor Dreadful's Drink Maker (which includes edible "monster warts"), Plasma Maker and Brain Juicer. Nervous parents are assured that all ingredients are entirely edible, and you can buy refills (£5). From good toy shops, or call Tycos Toys on 0800 585 108 for your nearest stockist.

Where can I get ... a leaf blower?

The debate about the strange weather doesn't detract from one autumnal pursuit - picking up fallen leaves. How can you deal with the problem?

To hire: HSS Hire Shops (0800 282828 for local branch). For clearing leaves they have a two-wheeled garden vacuum with attached litter bag for £23.38. An electric hand-held leaf sucker/blower collects leaves, clippings and even cans for £11, or petrol driven at £23.38. A leaf sweeper will sweep and collect leaves for £8.25. Finish off with a garden shredder which mulches organic rubbish for compost, at £17.88. All prices quoted are

weekend rates, not incl VAT.

To buy: B&Q (0181-466 4166 for nearest store): Flymo Garden Vac collects grass clippings, leaves, cans, £59.95, electric with 16m cable.

Do it All (0500 300321): Flymo Garden Vac Plus (with leaf shredder), £79.99; Black & Decker leaf blower, £99.99; Sabre petrol blower vac, £99.99. **Homebase (0181-784 7200):** Flymo Garden Vac, £64.99; Flymo Garden Vac Plus, £79.99; Black & Decker Leaf Buster, £98.99; Ryobi Sweeper Vac, £79.95.

Bestsellers Top 10 at the General Trading Company

The latest reborn of the Sloane Ranger celebrates its 75th birthday on Wednesday. Founded in 1920, to "source items on request for discerning customers", the GTC is still the source for pricey but socially OK presents. Branches at 144 Sloane Street, SW1, Bath and Cirencester. Call 0171-730 0411 for Christmas mail-order catalogue.

1 Hide covered library pole ladder	£930
2 Old Indian covered stool	£540
3 Wool picnic rug with nylon backing	£46.50
4 Cationa Stewart table mats (pack of six)	£11.95
5 Two time zone silver-plated watch cufflinks	£75
6 American spiced mug mats (pack of four)	£11.95
7 Indian 'lakshmi' coffee table	£350
8 George V Half Anna silver plate coaster	£7.50
9 Emma Bridgewater exclusive design mugs	£11.75
10 Manuel Carnovas scented candles	£35

collecting • antiques, galleries

FRIDAY 27 - SUNDAY 29 OCTOBER Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly W1 10-6 daily. Booked into 0171 438 4097. Advance booking 0171 438 4097. THE ART OF A CONTINENT.

To advertise in this section please contact the Fine Arts Team on 0171 293 2092

ANTIQUE DESKS

Large stocks of old desks, Oak, Mahogany, Walnut, Victorian, Edwardian, Rolltop, Cylinder, Partner's, Dickens and Pedestal Desks, also Dining Tables in stock.

DON SPENCER ANTIQUES WARWICK (01926) 499 857 (01926) 497 989 MOBILE 0845 25753 Old desks purchased 364 Market Place, Warwick (Warwick Village Antique Centre)

Nina Zborowska

Shared Experiences

Paintings and drawings by RAs and members of the NEAC

21 Oct - 5 Nov

Mon - Sat 11-5, Sun 2-5

Danvers Mill, Paradise, Painswick, Glos GL16 6UD

Tel 01453 812460

ART & ARTEFACT

Exhibitions & Installations in OVER 750

Antiques Shops, Fair

Sale Rooms & Art Galleries

Applied, Fine & Contemporary Arts

London, Paris & UK Arts Councils

Exhibitions, Festivals, Shows, Antiques

Brings together the Collector

Galleries & Galleries

Homebased shop. To advertise direct: UK 12 Issues - £25.00

Post copy send AS 845 (R19)

Birmingham Publications

54 Uddingdon Rd, London W12 8LP

Tel: 0181-740 7082

Six of the best: Halloween events

Chessington World of Adventures Chessington, Surrey (01372 727227)
Chessington challenges you to join its end-of-season "Fright Night" spectacular, where spine-tingling rides in the dark will be made more ghoul-ish by the addition of laser lights. Entertainers range from ghosts and witches to vampires and musicians.
Today and Sun 9.30am-9.30pm (rides queue closes at 9pm). Adults £15, children £11.75; evening only (gates from 5pm-7pm) adults £8.50, children £6.50

Mermaid Hotel Mermaid Street, Rye (01797 223065) The Mermaid Inn, one of the oldest in England, boasts enough spooks to make the perfect ghoulish weekend break. Try asking for one of the six rooms which have specific ghosts attached. Go where the chambermaids fear to tread; they will only clean room 17 in pairs as the rocking chair has been seen to rock for no apparent reason accompanied by a drop in temperature. Or for a bit of action try room 16, where a swash-buckling ghostly duel is reputed to have taken place. **Rooms from £50**

Tower Hill Pageant 1 Tower Hill Terrace, London EC3 (0171-709 0081)
Halloween attractions include pumpkin-making workshops for children, supervised by witches and wizards (7 to 13 years) and pumpkin trail treasure hunts. *Today and Sun 9.30am-5.30pm. Adults £5.95, children £3.95. Family ticket (2 adults, 2 children) £14.95 (additional cost of £1 for pumpkin workshops)*

Ghosts of the Old City (0171-624 3978) The circular walk organised by London Walks takes you through the old City of London. Visit a churchyard where the "she wolf" of France glides, go to the spot where the dark figure of Newgate rattles his chains and hear about the black nun. *Today and Sun meet 7.30pm St Pauls tube station at street level.*
Adult £4, concs £3, children u15 go free. Walk lasts about 2 hours

Westwood Woodland Park Ghost Walk Weston Shore car park, Southampton (01703 456484) Aimed at families with children under 12. Face painting, storytelling and a procession back through the woods in the dark. Meet today 4.30pm. Free (donations welcome)

Downhill all the way

As the rest of England basks in the sunshine of another Indian Summer, the snow will be falling heavily, in spirit at least, on the foothills of Olympia as the 1995 Daily Mail International Ski Show waxes the edges and tightens the bindings of the coming ski season. As resorts go, Olympia is fairly limited, with just one artificial slope, but the off-piste couldn't be better, with an unrivalled range of ski and snowboarding products. And, of course, there will be the usual glossy brochure haul from the holiday companies, with special emphasis this year on the US. Highlights include the Drambuie stand, which offers a free dram and a go on the downhill ski-racing simulator. Back on piste, aerialists, alpine skiers and ballet skiers will "Ski the Airwaves" and top technical skiers will pit their wits in the Artificial World Championships for synchronised skiing. *Olympia, Hammersmith Road, Hammersmith, London W14 (071-373 8141). Today to 5 Nov*



Things to do, places &

Childish behaviour

Although inspired by children's TV, with *Blue Peter*, *Live & Kicking* and other kids' programmes very much in evidence, the Big Bash is much more than a BBC fest. The exhibition comprises six themed "worlds" which offer children hands-on experience of new products. Be warned, "fun world", will have your offspring writing lengthy Christmas lists. Over in "sports world", work off the excitement with rowing, volleyball and archery. If you have a potential supermodel in the family then head for "style world" where Debenhams is looking for model kids. Alternatively, step boldly into "future world". Back to earth with a bump in the "real world" where advice about careers and money is the order of the day. In "entertainment world" children can audition to be a TV presenter. The highlight of the Big Bash promises to be CBBC's live show hosted by Peter Simon. There are four live broadcasts today and you can catch PJ & Duncan, Michaela Strachan and Zoë Ball among others. *Birmingham NEC (0121-780 4133) today & Sun*

film

WEST END

[illegible][illegible]**theatre**

WEST END

[illegible]

CINEMA

RYAN GILBEY

[illegible]

ART

MAIN GALE

[illegible]

THEATRE

DAVID BENEDICT[illegible]

هكذا من الاجل

Tel: 0171 293 2222

travel • overseas

Fax: 0171 293 2505

Take Off Take Off Take Off Take Off

NEW ZEALAND AUSTRALIA SOUTH PACIFIC WORLDWIDE

CALL NOW FOR BROCHURE

ABTA V4053 D2446 IATA

• THE BEST VALUE • THE WIDEST CHOICE OF HOLIDAYS & FLIGHTS •

- Farm & Homestays
- Exclusive Lodge
- Escorted Coach Tours
- Cycling Holidays
- Hotels, Motels
- Sailing, Fishing
- Guided Treks
- Campervans
- Travelpass
- Car Rental

CAR RENTAL FROM £18

CAMPERS - VANS FROM £26

HOTEL ROOMS FROM £32 PER NIGHT PER PERSON

SYDNEY £399

AUCKLAND £499

RESERVATIONS - INFORMATION NZTIS

94 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 9PL TEL: 0181 748 4455 Fax: 0181 748 2274

NEW YORK... from £185
TORONTO... from £225
BANGKOK... from £445
SINGAPORE... from £445
LOS ANGELES... from £285
SAN FRANCISCO... from £285
HONG KONG... from £285
MARIANA... from £285
JYBURG... from £285
HARARE... from £445

QANTAS

TRAILFINDERS

THE TRAVEL EXPERTS

For the real lowdown on low cost worldwide airfares

Trailfinders offer more low cost flights to more destinations than anyone. Experts in airfares since 1970 we can tailor-make your itinerary with up to 60% discount on hotels and car rental worldwide.

42-50 Ebury Court Road, London W8 6JT
Long Haul Flights: 0171-938 3366
Transatlantic & European: 0171-937 5400

194 Kensington High Street, London W8 7RG
Long Haul Flights: 0171-938 3939
Transatlantic & European: 0171-938 3232
First & Business Class: 0171-938 3444

22-24 The Priory Queensway, Birmingham B4 6BS
Worldwide Flights: 0121-236 1234
48 Carr Street, Bristol BS1 1HG
Worldwide Flights: 0117-929 9000

254-284 Southchurch Street, Glasgow G2 3DH
Worldwide Flights: 0141-353 2224
58 Deansgate, Manchester M3 2PF
Worldwide Flights: 0161-839 6969
First & Business Class: 0161-839 3434

For your free copy of the Trailfinder magazine call 0171-938 3366

ABTA 69701 IATA ATOL 1458

Going Places

Commission FREE

travellers cheques with British Airways World Offers.

HURRY! OFFER ENDS 11TH NOVEMBER 1995

Book British Airways World Offers at Going Places and we'll give you a 0% commission voucher for American Express Travellers Cheques.

With offers like these shouldn't you be Going Places.

The 0% commission voucher is only available and can only be used at Going Places shops. Travellers cheques must be purchased from the same Going Places shop who issued the voucher to qualify for the offer. Voucher valid until 31/05/96. Offer subject to the purchase of Going Places travel insurance. ABTA 48226 ATOL 3073

QUEST WORLDWIDE

Plus World Wide Around the World

SYDNEY \$499 DELHI \$339
PERTH \$449 BANGKOK \$445
AUCKLAND \$449 BANGKOK \$445
NAIROBI \$339 SINGAPORE \$445
BOMBAY \$449 LANGKAT \$193
DUBAI \$339 TORONTO \$224

(SPECIAL) BUSINESS CLASS

21 CASTLE STREET, KINGSTON, SURREY KT1 1ST OPEN 7 DAYS

LOW COST FLIGHTS, Airfare, 0127 504818 Mon-Sat 9am-5pm. DISCOUNT FLIGHTS, Bure Travel, 0171 430 4161, ABTA 22273. DISCOUNT FLIGHTS WORLDWIDE, Travel Insurance, Low Cost, 0127 504818, 0127 504819. WORLDWIDE FLIGHTS, From 200, 0127 504818, 0127 504819. ABTA 22273, Call Now!

If you wish to advertise in this section please telephone the Travel Team on 0171 293 2222

RAMBLERS HOLIDAYS

SUMMER 1996

BROCHURE NOW AVAILABLE

140 great walking, trekking, sightseeing and interesting holidays

Send, phone or fax for a copy

Ramblers Holidays
Box 43 Welwyn Garden AL8 6PQ
Tel: 01707 331133
Fax: 01707 333276

ABTA V5094 EST. 1946 CAA ATOL 990

EXODUS

Discoveries Holidays

0161 913 0850

20-22, SPENCER STREET, MANCHESTER M2 7LW

HIGHLAND TRAVEL

EXCITING ORIGINAL ADVENTURES

IRAN, TURKMENISTAN AND UZBEKISTAN

INDIA

Full Programme

Overland Journeys - London to Teheran/Nepal by road and train

0114 275 7500 24 hrs
ATOL 3034 fully bonded

WANTED!

Study Kamchatka's Volcanoes
Track and observe Black Rhinos
Record Artifacts on the Inca Trail
Monitor Ecuador's Rainforest Butterflies

Your help is needed on Earthwatch expeditions around the world

GIVE TWO WEEKS TO SAVE THE EARTH

EARTHWATCH

AN ADVENTURE YOU CAN BE PROUD OF

Bolton Court, 21 Woodstock Road, Oxford OX2 6JU
Tel: 01865 516366 Fax: 01865 311383
Cheque Number 22207

ENCOUNTER OVERLAND

Call for our free 32 page brochure

0171 370 6000

THE ETHIOPIA YOU NEVER KNEW EXISTED

Tailor made expeditions

01527 574442
Fax: 01527 577746

France

LOIRECHRON Charming, period, stone cottage, pool, in large garden. From £230. (01824) 657777

BOATING FRANCE

For your perfect choice of boating holidays on the finest rivers and canals of France. Hand-picked craft. Quoted Rates.

FREEPHONE 0800 524 520

WOLFGANGS

0203 7016 412

Eurocamp

simply the best

NEW 1996 BROCHURE OUT NOW - SEND FOR YOURS TODAY! When it comes to the perfect family holiday, nobody does it better than Eurocamp. We offer the largest selection of self-drive camping and mobile home holidays, with over 250 sites in 11 European countries. Send for your 1996 brochure now.

TAKE YOUR FAMILY TO EUROPE FROM £190*

LOW DEPOSIT £25 PER PARTY. If you book before 20th December 1995, UNDER 18s GO FREE!

*From 2 adults and up to 4 children to a tent for 14 nights, including campsite fees and accommodation for the holiday, where the tent will sit on a site or on a hard 10m x 6m site.

PHONE NOW ON 01606 73 44 44

OR POST THIS COUPON TO:
Eurocamp, FREEPOST CW6/38, Middlewich, Cheshire, CW10 0BR.
OR: Eurocamp, FREEPOST, PO Box 4047, Dublin 2.

Have you ever been on a self-drive camping holiday in Europe? YES ☐ NO ☐
Forward others which may be of interest to you by other carefully selected companies.

The favourite for self-drive camping and mobile home holidays.

FLIGHTBOOKERS

WORLDWIDE 0171 757 3000

FIRST & BUSINESS CLASS 0171 757 3500

AMERICAS & EUROPE 0171 757 2000

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND 0171 757 2468

GATWICK AIRPORT 01293 568 300

OPEN 7 DAYS 10am - 10pm

Flightbookers offer great value on low cost flights, homestays, car hire and hotels.

OPEN 7 DAYS 177/178 Tottenham Court Rd, London W1P 0LP

ABTA 0906 AXZ 2922 BAA

Madison Travel

City Seat Sale

RETURN PRICES FROM

0171 767 0333

easyJet

01582 44 55 66

CALL US 24 HRS / DAY

FLY BETWEEN LONDON & SCOTLAND

£29 SINGLE

FLY BETWEEN LONDON & SCOTLAND

£29 SINGLE

FLY BETWEEN LONDON & SCOTLAND

£29 SINGLE

ESCAPE TO THE WINTER SUN!

DISCOVER UNSPOILT NORTHERN CYPRUS!

SPECIAL OFFER:

4* OLIVE TREE HOTEL (KYRENIA) (A paradise waiting to be discovered!)

7 NIGHTS £329 14 NIGHTS £429

NOV - MARCH Departures from Heathrow - Gatwick - Stansted - Manchester

For a copy of our brochure/Reservations:

PLEASE CALL 0181-532 9050

ABTA V5728 MOSAIC HOLIDAYS ATOL 2930

British Midland Diamond Deals

Return fares from London Heathrow.

Contact your local travel agent or call for details on 0345-554554

Diamond Deal fare, available on selected dates and flights. Subject to availability. Travel must include a Saturday night stay. Passenger taxes will apply.

THE WORLD'S A BREEZE

WITH OVER 100 STA TRAVEL BRANCHES

0171 937 9921, Worldwide: 0171 937 9922

0161 834 0868 (Manchester)

117 Euston Road NW1, 6th Old Broad Street, 38 Store St WCL, London.

NEW YORK, LOS ANGELES, TOKYO, BANGKOK, SYDNEY, AUCKLAND...

FLYDRIVES ORLANDO

14 NTS NON STOP FOR SUMMER '96

£159 PER PERSON

LIBERTY WORLD TRAVEL

01253 757575

GERMAN TRAVEL CENTRE

01253 757575

LOW COST FLIGHTS

USA CANADA AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND SOUTH AMERICA

0171-490 1490

Eastern Europe

PRAGUE, VIENNA, BUDAPEST and Slovakia. Central locations, hotels & spas. Coaches (01709) 626890.

PRAGUE Apartments, hotels, car hire, itineraries arranged. Checkmate Travel 0181-366704.

PRAGUE HOTELS in 250 pp. nights in 1940. Bedouin hotels for £19. 1940s, Vienna, Prague £120, hotels to £21 pp. ATOL 2620 - Auto Plan 01643 267777.

CHRISTMAS IN POLISH LAKE DISTRICT 22-30th December in 19th century castle. 50 rooms, swimming pool, TV, hall-board and coach travel £100 brochure. Tel. (0171) 622 5314 (24 hrs).

France

LOIRECHRON Charming, period, stone cottage, pool, in large garden. From £230. (01824) 657777

BOATING FRANCE

For your perfect choice of boating holidays on the finest rivers and canals of France. Hand-picked craft. Quoted Rates.

FREEPHONE 0800 524 520

WOLFGANGS

0203 7016 412

WANTED!

Study Kamchatka's Volcanoes
Track and observe Black Rhinos
Record Artifacts on the Inca Trail
Monitor Ecuador's Rainforest Butterflies

Your help is needed on Earthwatch expeditions around the world

GIVE TWO WEEKS TO SAVE THE EARTH

EARTHWATCH

AN ADVENTURE YOU CAN BE PROUD OF

Bolton Court, 21 Woodstock Road, Oxford OX2 6JU
Tel: 01865 516366 Fax: 01865 311383
Cheque Number 22207

ENCOUNTER OVERLAND

Call for our free 32 page brochure

0171 370 6000

THE ETHIOPIA YOU NEVER KNEW EXISTED

Tailor made expeditions

01527 574442
Fax: 01527 577746

France

LOIRECHRON Charming, period, stone cottage, pool, in large garden. From £230. (01824) 657777

BOATING FRANCE

For your perfect choice of boating holidays on the finest rivers and canals of France. Hand-picked craft. Quoted Rates.

FREEPHONE 0800 524 520

WOLFGANGS

0203 7016 412

France

LOIRECHRON Charming, period, stone cottage, pool, in large garden. From £230. (01824) 657777

BOATING FRANCE

For your perfect choice of boating holidays on the finest rivers and canals of France. Hand-picked craft. Quoted Rates.

FREEPHONE 0800 524 520

WOLFGANGS

0203 7016 412

Eurocamp

simply the best

NEW 1996 BROCHURE OUT NOW - SEND FOR YOURS TODAY! When it comes to the perfect family holiday, nobody does it better than Eurocamp. We offer the largest selection of self-drive camping and mobile home holidays, with over 250 sites in 11 European countries. Send for your 1996 brochure now.

TAKE YOUR FAMILY TO EUROPE FROM £190*

LOW DEPOSIT £25 PER PARTY. If you book before 20th December 1995, UNDER 18s GO FREE!

*From 2 adults and up to 4 children to a tent for 14 nights, including campsite fees and accommodation for the holiday, where the tent will sit on a site or on a hard 10m x 6m site.

PHONE NOW ON 01606 73 44 44

OR POST THIS COUPON TO:
Eurocamp, FREEPOST CW6/38, Middlewich, Cheshire, CW10 0BR.
OR: Eurocamp, FREEPOST, PO Box 4047, Dublin 2.

Have you ever been on a self-drive camping holiday in Europe? YES ☐ NO ☐
Forward others which may be of interest to you by other carefully selected companies.

The favourite for self-drive camping and mobile home holidays.

Forty-fi
the lifeSIMON CALDE
FREE STATE FOR CH
Club M.

Forty-five seconds in the life of an astronomer

Simon Calder travelled to India with 311 astro-tourists to witness a total eclipse of the sun. He asked, 'How was it for you?'

It was as dark as the night, yet not completely black: more a deep and sombre blue. For a moment here in the still Indian gloom it was hard to decipher the intricate patterns of white, but once you focused you could make out that this was, indeed, a navy-coloured T-shirt announcing its wearer to be a member of the Loughton Astronomical Society.

The second most noticeable feature of an eclipse tour, after the totality itself, is the selection of T-shirts on show. Every occasion in the past 10 years when the sun has been completely obscured by the moon is represented on someone's chest: Peru, Hawaii, Indonesia, each logo revealing a part of the planet recently conferred with solar favours.

Yet the great thing about an eclipse is that you can be an absolutely amateur astro-tourist and still get a kick out of 45 seconds of instant sundown. We are all equal under the moon's shadow. About half of the 312 of us who flew here across five-and-a-half time zones were categorised by the tour biffin, Dr John Mason, as "eclipse virgins" — as interested in India as in astronomical occurrences. Those whose luggage included tripods, telescopes and 500mm camera lenses were the professionals, eclipse addicts for whom India '95 was another T-shirt to add to the wardrobe.

Astronomical tourism is big business. Unlike almost anything else in the travel industry, you can predict to the minute when eclipses will happen. Book now for Mongolia '97, Colombia '98 and Cornwall '99 (Dr Mason has already booked all the dorms at Truro School, plus the playing field, for the only total solar eclipse in the British Isles this century).

Last Tuesday morning, all of us were doing what our mothers always warned us not to do: staring at the sun. Some astro-tourists were in the Qom desert of Iran, others in the jungle Malaysian tropics of Borneo and a few hundred aboard a cruise ship in the South China Sea with Patrick Moore. And thousands of solar admirers were crowded lens-to-lens into the extraordinary ghost town of Fatehpur Sikri, 25 miles from the Taj Mahal at Agra. Of all the countries in the path of this year's eclipse, India was the prime candidate; not just because of the meteorological prediction that cloud would be at a minimum, but because of India's affinity with astronomy.

At the pink city of Jaipur, base camp for the final assault, the old observatory occupies a serene five-acre patch in the midst of chaos. The effect is like walking into a giant school geometry set. Absurdly large instruments are planted around a lawn at the back of the palace of the winds. This garden of the stars is an astronomical adventure playground, with intricate blocks of marble and red sandstone that convey notions of space and time more convincingly than Dr Who. You may think the motion of the sun to be undetectably slow, until you see the

sweep of a shadow from a 50ft sundial. The astral collision between — noisy and —logy is evident from the 12 signs of the zodiac, sandstone protractors placed precisely to tell fortunes. In India, astronomy got where it is today because of astrology.

The astro-palms in the Ashok Hotel was doing poor business, though. We Brits ignored the fortune-telling in favour of the more rationalist pre-eclipse briefing. All eclipses are lotteries, but the odds were stacked as much in our favour as possible. Dr Mason had checked the climate charts for everywhere along the route, and plumped for Fatehpur Sikri as offering the optimum chance of clear skies. The forecast was good, as was the briefing. A little knowledge proved to be a useful thing: instead of it got-dark-then-got-light, you could make sense of each phase of the eclipse.

Outside, night was falling over Jaipur and it was getting light — and very noisy. This year, the eclipse coincided explosively with the Hindu festival of light, Diwali. Three or four of Jaipur's 2 million people may have stayed indoors on Monday night, but I am sure I met the rest. The streets were ablaze with neon and candlelight, crackling with fireworks, and hyperactive with merrymaking. The excitement could have been enhanced by astrologers' warnings about demons snatching the sun. Millions of Indians were warned to avert their gaze from the eclipse that we had travelled halfway across the world to see.

First, though, we had to get to the eclipse site. Scientists can explain how the diameter of the sun is 400 times greater than that of the moon, and how uniquely of the planets in the solar system this provides the earth with total solar eclipses every year or so. But no one has yet come up with a precise relationship between the time an Indian bus is supposed to depart and the time it will actually get off, nor how many unannounced en-route stops it will make.

Everything was planned like a military operation, with advance warning of which bus you were booked on and the precise moment it would leave. But from day one it was apparent that military precision and India are not as congruent as the sun and the moon were about to be. By day two we were running three hours late, and worries were increasing about the prospect of missing the event. So the departure time from Jaipur, 150 miles away, was moved forward to midnight.

It was a weary bunch that greeted the dawn at Fatehpur Sikri, but only the grumpiest participant (perhaps the one who told me to f— off when I nearly strayed in front of his camera) could be unmoved by the faded glory of the setting. Atop the only hill for miles around, a triumphant 16th-century palace is streaked crimson by the dawn. Every south-east facing corner in every ancient courtyard was occupied by (in order of size) telephoto lenses and tourists. The

British contingent had bagged the arena of the old caravanserai, which looked curiously like a Mughal football stadium.

Things turned nasty shortly before kick-off. A party of Japanese had set up camp in the arena, and were not proposing to share it with anyone. We had three sets of permissions from various authorities; they had four armed men from the local militia.

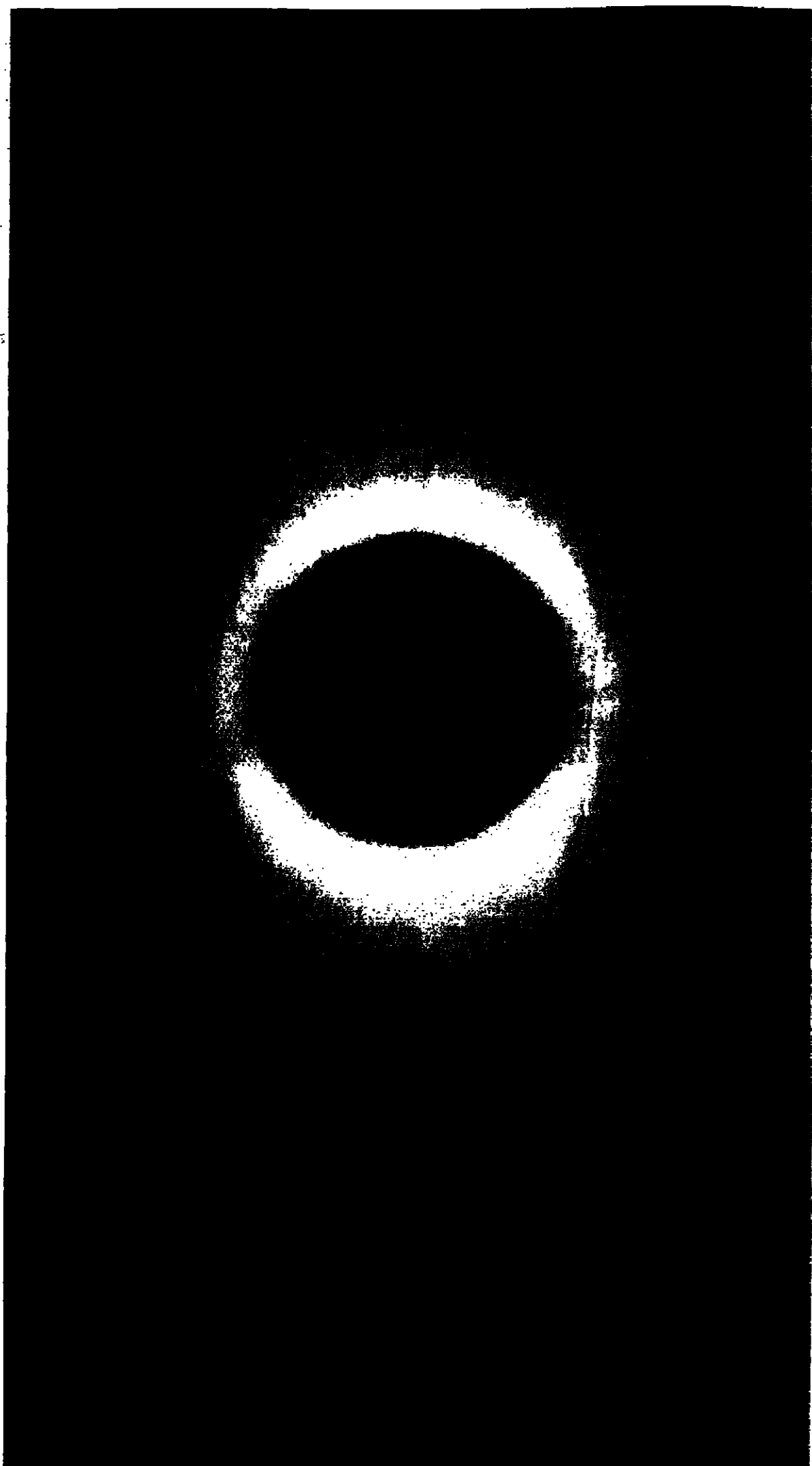
We retreated to what would have served as the terraces of the north stand, and gazed across to the twirls and turrets of the palace rising above us. The price of Mylar sunglasses being offered for sale by local hawkers plummeted as the totality approached and the vendors found themselves holding inordinately perishable goods. They could hang on to them for a while and sell them the next time around, but the next solar eclipse in India is not scheduled until 4 April 2070.

The thing about a solar eclipse is that you never actually see the moon — you just witness an absence of sun. The "first contact" takes place an hour before the totality, when (from the safety of your Mylar viewer — remember your mum's advice) you see a tiny black bite being taken out of the dazzling disc. The atmosphere turns nervously quiet, punctuated by blasts of advice radiated over loudspeakers. In the last few minutes before totality, the temperature falls sharply. The sunshine degenerates beautifully into a harsh, silvery blue light that cast bizarrely sharp shadows like some alien twilight. Suddenly you can safely look at the sun, or at least the shrunken, slender crescent that it has become. The birds subside and a mosquito buzzes into life. The ensemble shudders in awe.

You hear the eclipse as soon as you see it. A collective shriek pierces the sudden darkness, augmented by the motor drives of those who remember to take pictures; most merely stand and gawk at a phenomenon any human has to be truly fortunate to witness. Whoops give way, inexplicably, to applause as the inner corona flares around the blank disc where the sun used to be. In a matter of seconds (45, we later found), the valleys of the moon allow the first rays of sun to peek out, giving the effect of three diamonds set on a golden ring.

Moon 1, Sun 0. And like a cup-winning goal, I wanted an instant replay. The cost had been astronomical — about £30 for each second of totality — but the professionals thought it worthwhile. You could sense anticlimax from their camp as they went off in search of T-shirts, but we plain tourists were luckier. The city of Agra was an hour away. There are not many days when you can see a total solar eclipse and the Taj Mahal, and all before lunch.

Simon Calder paid £1,300 for a two-week package organised by Explorers Tours (01753 681999)



Total experience: 'You hear the eclipse as soon as you see it. A collective shriek pierces the sudden darkness'

Where to catch a total eclipse of the sun

There will be six total eclipses in the next seven years:

March 1997 — Mongolia and Siberia
February 1998 — northern South America, notably Cartagena in Colombia
August 1999 — Cornwall, then tracking across Europe to the Black Sea
2001 — southern Africa
2002 — southern Africa
November 2003 — Antarctica

SIMON CALDER

You read it here first: the Republic of Ireland has rejoined the United Kingdom, while Scotland has left it. That, at least, is the impression that visitors to Britain are gaining.

Arriving visitors are urged to call in to plan their holidays at the UK's flagship of tourism, the British Travel Centre in Haymarket, central London. Here you can change

money, book rail tickets and get all the travel information you need — so long as you do not wish to visit Scotland. Anyone wishing to go north of the border has to head south to the

Scottish Tourist Board's office in Trafalgar Square in order to get tourist information. But the trade-off for the loss of one component of the UK is that information on Ireland is freely available.

To judge how arcane this is, imagine going to the French tourist office to be told that "non, information on Provence is not available — but we can tell you all about Belgium instead".

You might recall that last New Year's Eve we carried a story about circumnavigating the globe in 80 hours — and seeing all the sights en route. Roger Woodgate of Northamptonshire has taken the concept one stage further by seeing New York in less than an hour.

Mr Woodgate and colleague found themselves with a modest wait at Newark airport on a flight home from Dallas, and decided to "do" Manhattan. The highlights:

"7.17pm: Quick exit into 42nd Street. Watched drugs deal being concluded on steps. Just like a scene from *Midnight Cowboy*: pimps, porno shops, one-legged beggars.

"7.24pm: See the Empire State Building in all its

floodlit glory. Forty-five seconds spent staring at it before changing position for a 30-second stare at the Chrysler Building.

"7.38pm: Stop two passers-by and ask them to take our photo with Times Square as the backdrop to prove we did it."

No doubt one of you has adopted an even more minimalist approach to seeing the world...

Mr Woodgate tells me he was travelling on the new joint service between Delta Airlines and Virgin Atlantic. Now, a trick common to Thunderbirds space vehicles and the Apollo moon-shot craft was the ability to detach and dock at will. The planes used for the joint service apparently possess the same property.

The agreement between the two airlines means Delta buys space on Virgin's transatlantic flights and sells it to people such as Mr Woodgate. Yet somehow Delta arranges for all its passengers to arrive at Gatwick's North terminal at precisely the same moment as the people with tickets on Virgin disembark at the South terminal. Can anyone enlighten me about how this is achieved without dividing the 747?

DISTANCE YOURSELF

Get 12% off and

Winter Sun holidays when you visit your local Thomas Cook shop or phone our credit card booking line on 01733 33 55 70*

quoting TC 258

and find yourself

on a great holiday.



At Club Med we'll do everything for you. Except ski.

FREE STAYS FOR CHILDREN
under 5 yrs, 1 child/adult on 7/01-11/02 at
AVORIAZ, LES MENUIRES, SUPERBAGNERES, France
SESTRIERE, Italy

"NON-SKIER" REDUCTIONS
at Christmas at
VALBELLA, ZINAL, Switzerland
SESTRIERE, Italy
and all season at CHAMONIX, France
RESERVATIONS TEL 0171 881 1101. BROCHURE ORDER 01833 565083. SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.

ONE IN TWO FLY FREE
for London departures
on 30th December to
LES ARCS & CHAMONIX, France.
Spend NEW YEAR'S EVE at Club Med

Club Med. Because life's too short.

Offer is available for bookings confirmed between 21st October and 31st November. Offer applies to Airborne Winter Sun and Aspire Winter Sun brochured holidays, departing between 1 November and 31 December 1995, and is subject to the purchase of Thomas Cook Insurance. A £1 charge per passenger applies to all travel related credit card bookings. *Twitch and make credit cards accepted. Open Monday to Friday 9am-5.30pm, Saturday 9am-5pm. All holidays subject to availability. The Thomas Cook Group Ltd ASTA 20000 acting as Agent for Airborne, ATOL 1170.

Wake n up in St-Rapt



Photograph: South Coast Press Agency

No wonder Skegness's Jolly Fisherman looks pleased with himself. Since 1908 he has endured being garbed in purple woolly jumper, red scarf and sou'wester. But soon he should be able to scatter the lot to the Lincolnshire breeze – thanks to global warming. A rise in average temperatures of 1C over the next few decades – and maybe as much as 4 or 5C – doesn't sound a great deal. But it would be more than enough to guarantee long, hot summers in Skegness every year.

The impact that global warming might have on Britain's tourism economy has been analysed in a report published by the Countryside Commission, written by Professor Keith Clayton and colleagues at the University of East Anglia.

First the report's hot statistics: this year's drought and that of 1976, estimated to be one in 357-year freaks, could happen every 14 years. That may be enough to encourage Brits back to homegrown coasts and countryside.

Too much sun poses health risks. That message was brought home in June by the sunbathers on a Hastings beach who fell asleep in temperatures over 26°C and died from severe sunburn and dehydration. "As global temperatures rise," Professor Clayton says, "temperatures in the Mediterranean will be so high in summer that many people will find them unpleasant, especially if they take the health risk *serenitas*."

But even in British resorts it won't be all sandcastles and sun. Sea levels are rising as ice sheets melt — maybe only by eight inches or so but accompanied by storms, giving our proms a greater battering. To make matters worse, beach levels are falling rapidly. Without topping up with vast and expensive amounts of sand — Bournemouth has done this twice — sunbathers could find themselves covered in factor 12 with nowhere to lie.

Elsewhere, too, our interference with nature isn't likely to be good news for the tourist trade. Winter snow in the Eastern Highlands will get increasingly unreliable. The report, however, predicts that Scotland's ski resorts will suffer, not from a paucity of

snow, but from too much, bringing a greater risk of avalanches.

Back in lowland Britain, country walks in the guaranteed warmth of an English summer might reduce our guilt for polluting the atmosphere. Alas, no. Many ecologists think that the colour will be drained from our woodland walks as the toughies of the plant world – cocksfoot grass and dog's mercury for instance – outcompete snowdrops, celandines and bluebells.

If colour disappears from the ground, it might actually increase in the air, however, as gorgeous butterflies such as Camberwell beauties become more regular visitors and golden orioles and other birds rarely seen in Britain set up home here.

But don't get too excited. You might not get to see them. Remember 1976 with its water shortages and fires? Avid walkers found themselves denied access to huge tracts of hill moor and forest. Hill walking might become less popular, too, because of increasing summertime ozone, the result of sunlight reacting with vehicle exhaust gases.

In already wet Wales, locals and visitors alike would welcome a bit of ozone and sun, or so you might think. Not Dai Davies, who for 28 years has run the Glanrannell Park Hotel at Crugbar in Dyfed. "We get 55 inches here but we could do with more in summer," he says. Yes, more. "Our fishing rivers are low all summer. If we had more rain, we could attract more guests for the fishing."

So, it seems there is scope for new marketing ploys in the warmer future. Follow Dan Davies' lead, perhaps, and market Welsh holidays in the rain, or all-night beach discos at Bognor. Even the chief of tourism in Skegness, Bob Suich, will have to stop selling tins of bracing Skegness air. Perhaps he could try Jolly Fisherman flippers instead.

'Climate change, acidification and ozone: potential impact on the English countryside', available by post for £25 plus £2.50 p&p from The Countryside Commission, PO Box 124, Walgrave, Northamptonshire NN6 9TL.

Why has it been so warm this month?

In the past 12 months we have had the warmest November and August in records for central England stretching back to 1659. October looks set to join this record-breaking pair.

The scientific consensus is that global temperature trends are confirming predictions of human activities warming the climate. But the complexity of the global climate means we cannot yet be certain that what we are seeing is anything more than the natural variability of our climate. What is certain is that the unusual warmth this month is a result of sustained warm, moist southerly or south-westerly winds, cloudy skies, and high night-time temperatures. One reason for this is that the Atlantic to the south of Greenland has been unusually cold, and north-westerly winds have prevailed in this part of the world. These sweep southwards in the central Atlantic before drawing warm, humid sub-tropical air up towards the British Isles.

The cooling to the south of Greenland could be part of the global climate's response to human activities along with our warmth in the British Isles. But it could be something independent of human perturbation which will disappear or become more extensive. The best approach to the current weather has to be to make the most of it, and don't assume it is part of an orderly progression which means that, in a few decades, southern England will enjoy the weather that is now the preserve of the Côte d'Azur.

William Burroughs

Fax: 0171 293 2505

VERNEY FRANCE & CORSICA
For a breath of French air or the exotic scent of Corsica
PARIS AND SHORT BREAKS
by Eurostar or by train
Holidays and short breaks by Air, Rail or by your own car on the ferries or Le Shuttle, A selection of hotels and self-catering apartments in the south and in the country
NEW FOR 1998
• Corsica, direct flights to this unspoiled paradise.
• Pyrenean Walking Tour in the Basque Country.
• The best holiday villages or châteaux.
Also holidays in the South of France, the Alps, Aquitaine, Dordogne, Basque Country, Provence and Pyrénées, Fly-drive, Car hire or transfers with car or rail travel, Child reductions.
For free colour brochures, contact your travel agent or contact
TOURISME VERNEY, 178 Piccadilly, London W1V 0BT
Telephone: 0171-435 5877, Fax: 0171-493 6744

Portugal

Hotel Savoy, Madeira
Famous Ground - 7 day Golfing Holiday
From 9.10ish December 1995
£590.00 inclusive of flights

Drive off the first tee at the famous A Vinha Juntas designed by G. G. Costa at Santa da Cruz, Madeira. Included in this marvellous offer are 5 days of golf to include a two day Tournament ("shot gun" supervised competition), golf clinics, free car hire throughout the week, breakfast during the Tournament, 2 Cocktail Parties and 7 nights accommodations in a seaview/harbour view twin room on a moon and breakfast basis at the Hotel Savoy, Ponta da Moura. The hotel is a very special winter break, with non-golfers sharing a twin room at an reduced rate of £640.00.

Further information please contact:
Prestige Holidays 1995 Savoy Golf Tournament
First Floor, 15 Southampton Row, Kingswood, Basingstoke Hants RG24 1RF.
Tel: 01256 820400 Fax: 01256 820401
(Prestige Holidays - ABTA C2266 - ATOL 2509)

VINTAGE PORTUGAL: Come & experience with us the best of Portugal! Miles & Drouin, 1890 Brookline, Rhode Island 01906. Phone 401-852-8229

If you wish to advertise in this section please call or telephone the "Travel" department on 0171 856 8229



TRAVELLERS' WAY
IN SPAIN AETA 05180
 ATOL 2795
 Fabulous cities, remote mountain
 villages and unspoilt coastal
 areas throughout Spain.
 Cottages, villas with pools &
 traditional hotels.
Tel: 01627
577555

Spain

COMPETA, MALAGA. Try some real Spain. Large village with many shops, bars, restaurants. Private house, fully equipped, three bedrooms steps 5-6. Marvellous views over village, mountains and Mediterranean (10 miles distant). £150-200pw. Broch 01708 458532.

KIET WYLLIC cottage in stunning Sierra Nevada mountains, between Granada & coast (both 45 mins). Sleeps 2. £190pw. Bookings all year. Tel 01225 758035

SECRET SPAIN. 1986 brochure
show out. Traditional houses in
"Green" Spain, near coast &
mountains. Early Booking Dis-
counts. 01449 736086. AUTO
delivered.

STAGE SPAIN. Catalan, Galician
& Mallorcan country houses most
with pools. 1988 brochure 01954
81431. AUTO £767. AUTO A/B/A.

Going to

... holidays Ltd., acting as agents for Antigua & Barbuda, St. Kitts & Nevis, Anguilla, Montserrat, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, St. Lucia, St. John's, St. Peter & St. Paul.

THE BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

Luxurious villas with pools and select hotels on secluded Caribbean islands.

British Virgin Islands Club

For a brochure telephone
(01983) 247617
Internet: <http://www.bvica.com/bvica/index.htm>

PVIA Centre Holidays Ltd
AWEA 47638 AXVL 848 ATTO

ther to make you ha

9. 800.749.96. Subject to availability, increase rate
to \$19.95 weekly 20th October 1995 at class of Business, LPA-

**PASSAGE TO
SOUTH AMERICA**
TAILOR MADE - SPECIAL

have the widest selection of
tours and flights to
South America.
Call us for a brochure and we
will help you plan the holiday of
a lifetime.

1. 3534
- 012 5599

AIO

ALLY BONDED

USA

FAR AWAY HOLIDAYS?					
No Problem.					
DESTINATION	DATE	ACCOMMODATION	DEPART	NIGHTS	PRICE
FLORIDA	2, 9 DEC	3A RO DUN'S BN LAKESIDE INTERNATIONAL DRIVE	GATWICK	14	\$329
SRI LANKA	21, 28 NOV	2A FB MERMAID HOTEL	GATWICK	14	\$459
KENYA	26, NOV 3 DEC	3A FB BANBURGH BEACH HOTEL	GATWICK	14	\$469
BANGKOK/ PATTAYA	16, 23 NOV	3A RO BEL-AIRE / 3A RO MOUNTAIN BEACH	GATWICK	14	\$489
PATTAYA	14 DEC	3A RO SLAM BAYVIEW	GATWICK	14	\$769
ISRAEL	20 NOV	3A SC TOPAZ APTS	HEATHROW	7	— 6
ISRAEL	18, 20 NOV	3A SC TOPAZ APTS	HEATHROW	14	\$429
FLORIDA	24, NOV 1 DEC	3A RO HOLIDAY BNK. EXPRESS INTERNATIONAL DRIVE	LUTON	14	\$399

THE SHADERS
VERGIN ISLANDS
 Lush tropical villa with
 pools and sunset views on
 secluded Caribbean
 Island.

Select Virgin Islands Golf
 For a complete brochure
 (01582) 247617

DISNEY'S APPROVED
 Villa Cavallotti Hollywood Fl
 AFDL-47598 ADL-548 ADL-550

**PASSAGE TO
 SOUTH AMERICA**
 THE MOUNTAIN RESORT

We have the ultimate selection of
 stores and flights to
 South America.

Call us for a brochure and we
 will help you plan the holiday of
 a lifetime.

**ATL 3500
 FULLY EQUIPPED**

USA

DISNEY/FLORIDA Luxury 3 bed,
 both villa in prime town. Large
 swimming pool, cable TV. Close
 to tennis, horse ring, golf. Tel 01678
 341 6719

to

SAVE
UP TO
50% OFF
on
the
new
1968
Ford
Mustang

Thomas Cook

Holidays

When it turns wintry, head for the forests

don't know about you, but I never think of the approaches to Méribel and Courchevel as being particularly attractive. Leaving aside the landscape-blotting impact of Moutiers and the bits of industry around it, the River Bozel offers little in the way of chocolate-box prettiness or real Alpine drama.

Normally, that is. You'd probably think differently if you went there right now. I was out there a week ago, and the autumn leaves were simply spectacular. Viewed from the hamlets across the valley, the afternoon sun slanting down the slopes below Courchevel was creating the kind of Technicolor effects you associate more with New England than Savoie. As I drove up towards Courchevel 1850, I reflected on how valuable the forest around this excel-

Snow's up By Chris Gill

lent resort is - and how the forest factor doesn't get the attention it deserves when holiday skiers are picking their destination.

When the weather turns seriously wintry, forest means good things all round. In the disorienting white-out conditions that often go with heavy snowfalls, forest brings three benefits: there's usually little doubt about which way the run goes; you get slightly directional lighting of the ground, which means you can see at least some of the bumps; and the trees provide a clear indication of which way is up. (Without this, white-out conditions can reduce some skiers - me included - to a

state of disabling nausea.) And if the snowfall is accompanied, as it often is, by strong winds, the shelter of the forest brings another benefit: the snow falls gently on to the runs, instead of being blown off or hard-packed as it is likely to be on exposed slopes above the forest.

In a resort with decent amounts of forest skiing, snowstorms can deliver fabulous skiing conditions. Day visitors from local towns will stay at home, a good proportion of holiday skiers will stay in bed, and those who do go skiing will spend long periods of the day ensconced in mountain restaurants, so space is usually plentiful. And, provided the falling snow is not (to adapt British Rail's famous phrase) of the wrong kind, the pistes are maintained in a delightfully flattering condition all day,

with a modest depth of fresh cover wherever you go.

Of course, there are scores of resorts in the Alps where practically all the skiing is below the treeline. But that means the skiing is low - there aren't many trees in the Alps above 2,000m - which in turn means a risk of poor snow conditions if you encounter sun rather than snowstorms. What's really needed by the keen skier who must book ahead is resorts with good skiing below the treeline and equally extensive skiing above it - or very good artificial snow cover around the 2,000m mark.

I have compiled a personal Top 10 selection of these "weatherproof" resorts - "Alpine resorts with snowsure skiing if the sun shines, and trees in case it doesn't". Courchevel tops the list alphabetically, and is one of

the best by any standard. How much better to be based here (or in Méribel, over the hill), than in the bleak, treeless moonscapes of Les Menuires or Val Thorens at the other end of the Trois Vallées.

The other nine weather-proof resorts are: Courmayeur, Flims, Montchavin, Schleding, Selva, Serre-Chevalier, Sestriere, La Thuile, Zermatt. These are Alpine resorts, remember. If American resorts were admitted they would fill the list practically all the way to the States is below the treeline, which is much, much higher - in the Rockies around the 3,500m mark. What the autumn colours are like, I can't say.

Chris Gill is the editor of *Where to Ski* (Boxtree, £14.99)



There's more fun in the woods than above the treeline

EUROPEAN DEPARTURES

A weekend away in the former Soviet Union is relatively inexpensive in the Baltic republics: Estonia, Latvia or Lithuania. Scheduled flights operate from Heathrow, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Manchester on Scandinavian Airlines (0171-734 6777) via Stockholm or Copenhagen. Regent Holidays (0117-921 1711) offers a "luxury weekend" in Riga for £299 in November.

Book a high-season camping holiday in Europe before 20 December, and Eurocamp (01565 626262) says you will pay £30 less than last year. A fortnight at a French site departing between mid-July and mid-August, including travel, costs around £799.

From Wednesday, charter flights of less than six hours organised by members of the Federation of Tour Operators will be designated non-smoking.

Tel: 0171 293 2222

christmas gift guide

Fax: 0171 293 2505

Opportunities

Department of Home Employment Services Bureau

HOME BASED GIFT ASSEMBLY WORK

Part-time work now available supplied in kit form by post

Applications are now being accepted for the HESB GIFTMAKING PROGRAMME. People of differing backgrounds, ages and skills, who wish to be actively employed at home doing something worthwhile from which they can gain real financial benefit, are being sought by the Bureau.

After 5 years of research and experience, the Bureau has finally produced the answer for those who have ever asked the question "Is there something interesting I could do at home that could also earn me money?" and who are not afraid of a little hard work and application making and assembling Ring Dials, Picture Frames, Greeting Cards and other items required by high street shops, craft fairs etc.

The training has been designed as a way of developing a satisfying hobby and producing income - all starter materials are free and step-by-step instruction guides are supplied.

No DIY or previous experience is required - if you can cut accurately, sew, paste or paint, assemble and pack neatly - this could be for you.

You will be producing impressive gifts for your friends. You can send them back to us for payment - with the satisfaction that comes from acquiring new abilities and a fascinating and creative hobby. You may also distribute your finished products locally for higher returns - we advise, guide and assist should you choose this option.

For full details and an application form, simply return the coupon with an SAE plus loose 15p stamp. Information will be sent to you within 14 working days.

Apply now by posting to: Home Employment Services Bureau, Dept. 724 38 Mount Pleasant, London WC1X 0AN.

Please send details of the HESB GIFTMAKING PROGRAMME (enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope and a loose 15p stamp).

Name: (Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms)

Address:

Postcode:

Tel. No:

Fashion

GENTS HAIRPIECES & LADIES WIGS

HANDMADE, UNDETECTABLE & GREAT VALUE!

As featured on TV The Time The Place

GENTS £78 to £194 LADIES £27 to £59

Write or telephone for Ladies and/or Gents FREE BROCHURE or to make an appointment

ESTABLISHED OVER 20 YEARS (0117) 971 9918

STYLES AHEAD LTD

DEPT DM PO BOX 36 36 FEEDER ROAD BRISTOL BS99 7ND

Interior Design

RUDLOE STONEWORKS

RECONSTITUTED STONE FIREPLACES

High quality castings in Bath or Portland Stone. For Free Colour Brochure please telephone Bath (01225) 511545

Fashion

ORIGINAL IRISH GRANDFATHER SHIRT

For generations the GLENESKE shirt has been a traditional part of everyday life in rural Ireland. 100% bleached cotton, with best cotton, the GLENESKE shirt is warm, comfortable and durable, machine washable and practical, for men.

Small: £19.99 XL: £29.99

NIGHTSHIRTS £14.99

The Grandfather Shirt Co. 22-24 St. James's Street, Dublin 1, Ireland. Tel: 01-262 5227/5228/5229

Greetings

Carluccio's

Italian Christmas Catalogue of fine Italian food packed deliciously. Delivery nationwide. For personal or company gifts. Please telephone us on 0171 240 5710 or Fax 0171 497 1361

Unusual Gifts

ARE YOU STILL FLIRTY AT 30? IS THERE SEX AFTER 40? ARE YOU FINISHED AT 50? THESE AND MANY, MANY MORE HUMOROUS BOOKS ARE YOURS FOR FREE GIVING. SEND FOR OUR LIST AND SPECIAL OFFERS...

PENDULUM GALLERY PRESS, 56 ACKLAND ROAD, ALTON, HANTS GU34 1JS Tel. and Fax: 01420 84483

TANKMANIA

Big toys for big boys! Drive a real military tank across rough terrain. Also drive Stalwarts, 101s, and Rovers. Pilot Dune Buggies, Quads and Karts. Shell out as little as £75 for a fully supervised course.

Malory Park Racing Circuit, Lakes LE8 7DE. Tel: (01455) 841670

GENUINE BIRTHDAY NEWSPAPERS

From famous active news from 1942-1995. Also Sunday Newspapers from 1915. Ready for presentation. See your dealer. REMEMBER WHEN

0181-638 6323

YO-YOS WITH A BRAIN

Rockets, brilliant kites, flying cats, juggling tricks, games and puzzles. Aerobics and Roomerangs. Catalogues from AirMail

Call 01225 466999

Dandy Beano

Complete original COMICS FOR SIXTH YEARS 1940's - 1980's. Comics By Post. Springfield, Woodlands. Tel: 01909 588425 Fax: 01909 588900

Books

FRENCH LANGUAGE MAGAZINE FOR UK READERS

La Vie Quotidienne est le magazine en français pour les lecteurs britanniques. Il est écrit en style direct et clair, beaucoup de phrases sur une gamme de sujets - sciences, sports, biographies, jeux de mots, etc.

Selected for UK readers, articles contain many translations side to side to assist understanding and enjoyment. For those who wish to improve their grasp of spoken French, an audio cassette with recordings of selected articles accompanies each issue. (Price extra). Year's subscription to magazine (six bi-monthly issues): £14.70. Year's subscription to audio cassette: £22.00. Total cost: £36.70. (All items post free UK). Payment to: La Vie Quotidienne, 8 Sycamore Close, Malden, Kent ME15 8SF

BOOK PUBLISHER

Invites authors to send manuscripts for publication. All types considered and NEW AUTHORS welcome. BOOKPLAN AT LESS COST. Limited editions and assisted self-publishing. MERLIN BOOKS LTD (A234) Birmingham, B36 8BA Tel: (02127) 515430 Fax: (02127) 515417

Q1 WHERE CAN YOU buy your Yo-Yo with a brain?

House and Home

FILING CABINETS

2 for £89 VAT

Wise 1 FREE

Call 0227 781111

TRADITIONAL DINING CHAIRS

Solid Mahogany Hand-carved Ladderback Queen of W. etc. From £140 delivered

Classic Reproductions SWAN CORNER, PENNEY WILTS, SN1 6SE. EXCELLENT VALUE. Call 01672 663333

Food & Wine

MACEY'S GOURMET CUISINE

AN EXCLUSIVE RANGE OF QUALITY FOODS DIRECT TO YOUR DOOR

- Boneless duck with black cherry filling
- Bavarian chicken fillet with apricots & honey
- Boneless lamb chops with provencal herb filling
- Just a selection from our mouthwatering range of designer meats

For brochure telephone 0800 413 700 Fax 01628 532 480 or write to: Mr Macey's Ltd, Rose Cottage, Lower Rd, Cockburn Rise, Barchinore SL6 5EA

Q3. WHO WOULD supply genuine Lord Snooty and Derris the Menace adventures?

THE ULTIMATE STOCKING FILLER IS HERE

Entertaining and informative handbook for aficionados of erotic dance. Full details of clubs, pubs, opening times, prices, etc. Cartoons by Husband

SEND NOW!

Cheques/POs for £2.99 (inc p.p.), payable to: Tredger Press, PO Box 4830, Dept 15, London SW11 4XQ

JIGSAW PUZZLES MADE FROM YOUR PHOTOS

An Original Gift for Everyone

11in x 15in - 280 pieces - £12.99 inc. p.p.
11in x 14in - 120 pieces - £11.99 inc. p.p.
11in x 12in - 60 pieces - £10.99 inc. p.p.
11in x 8in - 30 pieces - £9.99 inc. p.p.

To order, send any size photo (returnable) and payment to: Jigsaw Puzzles, 14 Crofton Lane, Boreham, Essex S47 3AN. Telephone: 0171-740 5439. Please allow 7-10 days for delivery

House and Home

FACTORY SHOP

SOFAS & SOFA BEDS

From Factory to you! NO MIDDLEMAN!

Styled and made to your own requirements. Deeper seats. Higher or lower backs - soft or firm cushions. A choice of hundreds of fabrics from Sandersons, Liberty, Monkwell and others. All work carried out by crafts men and women. Not mass produced. We also undertake re-upholstering to the public and interior designer.

LOOSE COVERS

OPEN 7 DAYS

POSTSTYLE LTD, Unit 1, Bayford St Industrial Centre, Mare St, (Nr Well St), Hackney, London E8 3SE. Telephone 081 533 0915.

RADIOGUARD 200

Radio Operated Alarm System for all Outbuildings

- ★ Minimum 200 foot range ★
- ★ Easy to fit. ★ Sensor/Transmitter monitors any door or gate
- ★ Portable receiver gives instant highly audible alarm.
- ★ Many versatile applications - ideal for the home, garden, gates, sheds, shops and offices.
- ★ Requires 2 AA batteries (not included).
- ★ 200 foot range. ★ 12 months' guarantee.

PRICE £39.95

For Further Details please contact Stock Distribution, London Road, Thames, Norfolk NR10 1XD. Tel: 01262 694977. Fax: 01262 695067

Gardening

FRUIT PRESSERS & CRUSHERS

Two simple and efficient fruit presses, each with a 10 litre capacity. Presses from £25 + postage. Visit (1) Ballings, Chelms, Essex. Tel: 0202 888888 (2) G. Tel: 0202 888888 (2) G.

Gifts for the Family

We're talking COMEDY

Choose from our great collection of Comedy Tapes and Audio Books. Classics - Fiction - Comedy

Plays - Poetry. Great Gifts. Great Value. For FREE Catalogue call 01732 743732

Listening POST (Dept IN07) Greatness Lane, Severnside, Kent TN14 5BQ

For Sale

A BIRTHDAY Newspaper. Free-phone (0800) 908600.

Health & Leisure

Win a Prize In Our Easy To Enter Christmas Competition

The Independent in association with Carluccio's is offering a special box full of delicious Christmas goodies every Saturday until 9th December in our Christmas Gift Guide Competition. Every week the first correct postcard pulled out of the Christmas sack will win the special prize.

How To Enter

There are five questions, numbered one to five, hidden amongst the Christmas Gift Guide advertisements. Once you have found them, you must find the answers. These are located within the advertisements. Send your answers, together with your name, address and daytime telephone number on a postcard to:

Christmas Gift Guide Competition No.1 Marketing Dept., 19th Floor, Independent, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL.

Closing date for Competition No. 1 is Wednesday 1st November 1995

BANISH SCALE FAST!

-OR YOUR MONEY BACK

Scalewatcher descales the average water system and starts to save you money in 4 to 6 weeks - GUARANTEED!

- CLEARS OLD SCALE
- PREVENTS NEW SCALE
- EASY DIY FIT
- PROTECTS PLUMBING
- GUARANTEED TO WORK EFFECTIVELY OR YOUR FULL MONEY BACK

FOR DETAILS PHONE (01491) 572374

OR RETURN THIS COUPON TO: FAST SYSTEMS LTD, 54 Friday Street, Hanley-On-Thames, Oxon, RG9 1AH For your FREE Scalewatcher Colour Brochure and Price List. With Distributor - G.S.G., 1 Castle Street, Galway, Tel: 081 62706

Mr/Ms/Ms

Daytime Tel: Evening Tel:

Address: Postcode:

Cushions & mattresses cut to any shape or size.

Dunlopillo Latex & P.F. Foam

in soft, medium or firm for your choice of comfort when sitting and sleeping.

NEW CUSHIONS For chairs, sofas, bench seating etc. Uncovered or with your own fitted cover.

MATRESSES Made to measure any size and to your individual comfort.

MATRESSES OVERLAYS A separate 2 in. deep layer for instant relief on a too hard bed.

EVERYTHING DELIVERED SAFELY TO YOUR DOOR

PHONE 0113 267 8281

or post coupon below for 40 page colour brochure, measuring guide and direct prices. Please send stamp for 40 page brochure or phone.

Mr/Ms/Ms

Address: Postcode:

FOAM FOR COMFORT Dept IN7, 401 Oldley Rd, Cookridge, Leeds LS16 7DF

Independent Parents

Anglo-International GUARDIANS

HOST FAMILIES WANTED

We are looking for caring families willing to welcome overseas pupils attending British boarding schools, for excels, half-terms and/or occasional longer holidays. Excellent remuneration in return for full board and integration into family life.

We should be interested to hear from families throughout Great Britain and Northern Ireland. We are in immediate need of families in the following areas: London, Sussex, Kent, Surrey, Hampshire, Dorset, Devon, Somerset, Shropshire, Oxfordshire, Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, West Midlands, Nottinghamshire, N. Yorkshire, Cumbria and N. Ireland.

Please write or telephone for further details: The Guardianship Officer, Mrs Carol Dawson, Anglo-International Guardians, Archer House, Northbourne Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN22 8PW. Tel: 01323 638489. Fax: 01323 641970

Wanted

Pre-Owned Wristwatches Highest Prices paid in CASH call the U.K. Specialists on 0171 629 2858

Q3. WHERE COULD YOU find Queen Ann in solid mahogany?

Money

INDEPENDENT WEEKEND • SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER 1995

"From the Andes to the Urals, countries that once bleated about First World exploitation are now trying to get rich. Even those that are socialist want to be rich socialists"

The investment business has few genuine heroes, but one with a good claim to belong to any Hall of Fame that exists is a charming but unorthodox American called Jim Rogers. Thirty years ago, while on a postgraduate scholarship at Oxford, he joined the Dark Blues in the Boat Race and hoarded the few dollars he had in the expectation that the pound would soon be devalued against the dollar.

It was the start of a lifetime of taking bets on the direction of the world's financial markets that has made him a fortune and given him the freedom to do what he wants with his life.

Although virtually unknown in this country, in the United States, where investment is regarded as an honourable occupation, Mr Rogers is something of a phenomenon.

A self-confessed "loner and misanthrope", he made his name - and his money - as George Soros' partner in the early years of the Quantum Fund, one of the most successful investment partnerships ever.

JONATHAN DAVIS INVESTMENTS

In what appears to have been a profitable but strained relationship, Mr Rogers did much of the research while Mr Soros (so he says, anyway) made the big strategic decisions.

In 1980, when he was 37, there was some sort of falling out and Rogers cashed in his share of the partnership and "retired".

He now invests as a hobby rather than as a professional money manager.

In his spare time, he teaches a class on investment at a business school in New York, and makes regular appearances on television programmes and in the invest-

ment pages of the financial journals.

Some day someone will write a learned academic thesis about the influence of Oxford University on modern investment trends.

Like Sir John Templeton before him, another American who spent time as a postgraduate at Oxford, Mr Rogers can justly claim to be one of the pioneers of today's hottest fad, investment in emerging markets.

Just as Sir John was one of the first to spot the economic potential of Japan when it was still an emerging economy back in the 1960s, so Mr Rogers has been demonstrating for years just how profitable picking the next Japan or Chile can be - if you can find them.

At the moment, as it happens, there is plenty of supply. With communism discredited, and trade and investment barriers coming down all round the world, there is no shortage of wannabe capitalist nations.

From the Andes to the Urals, countries that once spent their time bleating about First World exploitation are now opening their markets and concentrating on getting rich. Even those who are still socialist, says Mr Rogers, now want to be rich socialists.

Five years ago, aged 48, Mr Rogers fulfilled a lifetime's ambition by leaving New York to travel round the world - some 57,000 miles in 20 months - by motorbike.

On the way, flogging through the outer reaches of Siberia, Australasia, Africa and South America, he found there were simply too many investment opportunities to resist.

If he liked a country - and he liked New Zealand, Argentina, Peru, Botswana, and several more - he went down to the local stock exchange and bought a bunch of blue-chip stocks.

In the case of Botswana there were only seven shares altogether, so he bought them all from the only broker the country had.

The results of this journey are chronicled in a splendid but unusual book, *Investment Biker*, half travelogue, half musings on the state of the world and its current investment opportunities.

Anyone interested in how smart investors tick, or how to read the entrails of a market, will find it full of valuable insights. In Mr Rogers' view, all markets - whether you are talking about stock markets, currencies, gold, or wool - ultimately dance to the same tune.

Like nearly all the most successful investors, Rogers is an unashamed contrarian.

Just as trees can't grow to the sky, goes one of his favourite aphorisms, so markets don't go in the same direction forever.

The investments he likes best are those that are currently most out of favour. What he looks for in countries are economies which are experiencing "secular change", but whose moves towards economic realism have yet to be fully appreciated.

Best of all are those that have recognised the need to attract foreign capital and are just beginning to develop investor-friendly stock markets.

Getting in on the ground floor is the way to get the most value out of these situations.

The one condition that he insists on is that the country must have a convertible currency.

This is essential if investors are to have any confidence in being able to get their money out when the time arises.

The black market rate of a country's currency is generally a good guide to the health of its economy.

In Mr Rogers' case, that means directing his money towards several countries that would not feature even on the list of most specialist emerging market funds.

Not many funds are yet ready for Ghana, Uruguay, Botswana and Peru.

His tip for the hottest markets of the next decade are (of all unlikely places) Iran and Venezuela.

By contrast, he is bearish about Mexico - a "sham" - and doubtful about the prospects for Eastern Europe and the Hong Kong market. Zaire he would avoid like the plague.

Not many ordinary investors, it is safe to say, will actually feel the urge to follow Mr Rogers' lead and put their money in these out-of-the-way places.

But you should certainly note the thinking that underlies his investment approach. His view is that while there are huge opportunities in investing abroad, the great bull market in American and UK shares of the last 20 years is now in the process of drawing to an end. He fears that the twin deficits in the US are symptoms of a deep-seated economic and social malaise in his home country.

When I spoke to him in London this week, his view was that we are moving into a period when commodities and natural resources are about to experience a renaissance.

They have been in a bear market for at least a decade, and even longer in some cases.

The places to invest in future are those that will benefit from this next great secular change.

It is no accident that many of the countries he likes from an investment perspective have a wealth of natural resources.

But the best investment advice anyone can give to their children, says Mr Rogers, is to tell them to learn Chinese or Spanish.

Just as the last century belonged to the British, and this one to the Americans, so the next century will inevitably belong to the Chinese.

The way to invest in this change is probably not to put your money directly into China (where the political and economic environment remains uncertain), but into countries run by the "offshore Chinese", where the rules of capitalist life are better understood. *Investment Biker* by James Rogers. John Wiley. £12.99.

INSIDE STORIES

BRADFORD & BINGLEY'S CURRENT RATES OF INTEREST EFFECTIVE AT 28 OCTOBER 1995

Account	Balance	Annual Interest		Monthly Interest	
		Gross % p.a.	Net Equiv. % p.a.	Gross % p.a.	Net Equiv. % p.a.
Ordinary	£1+	0.25	0.19	-	-
Time	£1+	0.25	0.19	-	-
	£250+	0.50	0.38	-	-
	£1,000+	1.50	1.13	-	-
	£10+	7.50	5.48	-	-
Monthly Saver (Premium Rate)*					
First Choice (Including Bonus)	£50+	1.25	0.94	-	-
	£100+	3.50	2.63	-	-
	£250+	4.05	3.04	-	-
	£500+	4.50	3.38	-	-
	£1,000+	5.10	3.85	-	-
Special Asset	£2,500+	4.05	3.04	3.95	2.96
	£3,000+	4.45	3.34	4.35	3.26
	£70,000+	5.45	4.09	5.30	3.98
	£20,000+	5.90	4.45	5.70	4.28
	£40,000+	6.05	4.54	5.85	4.39
	£80,000+	6.25	4.76	6.15	4.61
TESSAs					
Classic 1*		5.75	-	-	-
High-Return 1*		6.45	-	-	-
Feeder Account 1		6.45	4.84	-	-
Premier Deposit*	£1+	0.25	0.19	-	-
	£100+	1.00	0.75	-	-
	£10,000+	4.20	3.15	-	-
	£25,000+	4.95	3.71	-	-
	£50,000+	6.00	4.50	5.80	4.35
	£25,000+	6.50	4.88	6.30	4.75
	£50,000+	6.80	4.95	6.60	4.80
	£100,000+	6.70	5.03	6.50	4.88

ACCOUNTS NO LONGER AVAILABLE TO NEW INVESTORS

Account	Balance	Annual Interest		Monthly Interest	
		Gross % p.a.	Net Equiv. % p.a.	Gross % p.a.	Net Equiv. % p.a.
One Month Notice	£1+	3.00	2.25	2.95	2.21
	£2,500+	3.55	2.66	3.45	2.59
	£25,000+	4.50	3.38	4.35	3.26
	£50,000+	5.00	3.75	4.85	3.64
Bonus (inc. full bonus)	£1,000+	3.75	2.81	-	-
	£10,000+	4.75	3.56	-	-
Option 6	£2,500+	4.65	3.49	4.50	3.38
Vintage Bond 3	£5,000+	5.65	4.24	5.45	4.09
	£25,000+	6.15	4.61	5.90	4.43
	£50,000+	6.40	4.80	6.10	4.58
	£100,000+	6.55	4.91	6.25	4.69
Matured Vintage Bond and Renewal Bond	£20+	0.50	0.38	0.50	0.38
	£500+	2.75	2.06	2.75	2.06
	£3,000+	3.30	2.48	3.30	2.48
	£10,000+	3.75	2.81	3.75	2.81
	£25,000+	4.35	3.26	4.35	3.26
Maturity Bond	£5,000+	6.00	4.50	5.80	4.35
	£25,000+	6.50	4.88	6.30	4.75
	£10,000+	5.75	4.31	5.55	4.16
	£30,000+	6.15	4.61	5.95	4.46
Spa TESSA 1*		6.00	-	-	-
Spa TESSA 2*		5.50	-	-	-
TESSA Feeder Account 1		6.25	4.69	-	-

TESSAs	Gross		Bonus		Tax-Exempt	
	% p.a.		% p.a.		% p.a.	
Options 1	5.25	+	1.00	=	6.25	
Classic 1	5.25	+	1.00	=	6.25	
High-Return 1	6.25	+	1.00	=	7.25	

Interest rates are variable and are correct at date of going to press. Net equivalent rates are based on a 25% interest rate. Interest will be payable out of the basic rate of interest but will only be retained by non-employees or, subject to the required registration, gross. Net rates are rounded and are for illustrative purposes only. Options rates apply where 12 consecutive monthly payments are made in a 12 month period and the account remains open on the anniversary. (Minimum initial investment £200). *Maximum initial investment £25,000. (Tax-exempt) (See of income tax). For details of other accounts please ask at your local branch. In addition to accounts available through the Society's branches, the Society also offers postal accounts through its Direct Savings Unit. Further details can be obtained by telephoning 0945 947 047.

BRADFORD & BINGLEY BUILDING SOCIETY

HEAD OFFICE: P.O. BOX 88, CROSSFLATTS, BINGLEY, WEST YORKSHIRE BD16 2UA

To obtain a mini prospectus containing an application form, please call:
0171 242 4900 (24 hours)
or Fax: **0171 242 2048**

The offer for subscription closes on 6th November 1995
The minimum subscription is £2,500.

ADVICE YOU CAN TRUST

Directly by telephone
24 hours a day

0345 6789 10

Issued by Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society, a mutual company.
Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority.
Information advice will only be provided on Scottish Widows' products.

SCOTTISH WIDOWS

Your questions answered by a panel from Coopers and Lybrand



QUESTION TIME

I am a small shareholder in the TSB, and pay tax at the top rate. My wife pays some tax at the standard rate. Is it possible to transfer my TSB shares to her and get some tax back on the 68p-a-share special dividend?

As your wife is a basic rate taxpayer, it is tax-efficient to transfer your holdings to her.

The special dividend has not yet been paid and the record date, when your total registered shareholding is used to calculate the special dividend, has not been confirmed.

But for shareholders to qualify for the special dividend, they must hold shares from the record date to the merger date. Therefore, you risk not receiving the special

dividend if you transfer the shares after the record date. If you transfer your shareholding to your wife after payment of the special dividend, she will be taxed at the dividend rate of 20 per cent.

How to get a slice of the action

Billions have been paid out to investors following flotations and takeovers. Who's next on the list? By Brian Tora

Millions of people have received an unexpected bonus recently through takeovers. Millions more could gain because the companies they own are floating on the stock market. And most of them did not even know they were shareholders.

Billions have been paid out. Where has all this money come from? More importantly, how do you grab a slice of the action?

Takeover activity has come principally from banks, building societies and the privatised electricity companies. Cheltenham & Gloucester and National & Provincial are big societies that have fallen to bigger predators. Societies have members. The members agreed to the takeover. The members reap the benefits.

Deposit-holders with these societies before the takeover announcements will have received a bonus based on how much is on deposit and how long they have been with the society. Mortgage-holders, too, can benefit. Building societies, after all, were formed to let people club together, those with surplus cash giving those needing it the chance to buy a house.

Societies have had to change the rules for taking on depositors because of the rush of investors seeking to open new accounts in case a takeover occurs. Yet it was only a decade ago that Abbey National, then the second-largest building society, turned itself into a bank. Before then no one thought that owning a building society share was a way of making a quick buck.

The biggest bonus to building society depositors will be the flotation of Britain's premier building society, Halifax. It announced its intention to go to the stock market as it swallowed the smaller Leeds. This flotation will give many depositors shares in the new bank. Those who wish can sell their holdings to receive a cash benefit.

Flotations may give some of the best opportunities in the future.

Recently Norwich Union announced that it would abandon mutual status to become a fully listed public company. Mutual insurance companies are like building societies. They have owner-members. If they decide to opt for a stock market quote, then it is the members who receive the shares, which they can buy and sell. It is not difficult to see why Norwich Union is taking this route. Life assurance has been a difficult market recently. Consolidation has taken place in the industry and more is expected. If Norwich Union wishes to compete on the European stage, it needs access to the stock market to raise money. Issuing its own shares for acquisitions may prove a simpler way of mopping up smaller rivals.

There is still time to benefit from the flotation of Norwich Union, although caution is advised. Policy-holders will benefit and as the plans have not yet been announced, even those who take out a policy today may have a chance to see an extra return on their investment.

But take care! The deal may not go ahead. And if it does, you must remember that the penalties for taking out a life policy and surrendering early are considerable. Also, not every policy-holder will be eligible for shares in the newly floated Norwich Union. With-profit holders should, but unit-linked investors may be excluded.

What Norwich Union is considering, others could soon adopt. Standard Life is the largest mutual assurance company in Europe. Based in Scotland, it enjoys, with Norwich Union, a strong brand image and a good reputation. But the life assurance industry has its problems. According to the latest Bacon & Woodrow survey, some 43 per cent of companies have an expense ratio which places their very existence in danger.

Of course, many smaller mutual companies may provide fruitful pickings for those wanting to be-



Gold in the dirt: The cost of updating the sewerage system could mean shareholder profits if the industry consolidates

policy-holder in next year's takeover target. For my mind, though, there are less risky ways of joining the takeover trail. Quoted life assurance companies may themselves come under the hammer. And banks, too.

The Lloyds bid for TSB is just one of a series of moves that could well see Britain's banking industry consolidated into fewer, more powerful groupings. Royal Bank of Scotland is a possible takeover target. Activity need not, however, be confined to domestic mergers. We could well see a growing Europeanisation of the retail market, just as investment banking has become a cross-border business with Deutsche Bank owning Morgan Grenfell, Dresdner buying Kleinworts and Swiss Bank Corporation absorbing Warburgs.

Do not forget utilities. Many of

those who acquired electricity company shares when floated have made four times their money through takeovers. Interestingly, many City analysts initially thought the water companies would excite the bidders' interest, but it seems that a greater fear of government intervention deterred buyers.

We may yet see some consolidation in this sector, though. The capital spending needed to bring the water and sewerage pipe network up to date is considerable. Some economies of scale might be justified by greater resources.

Remember one golden rule. City professionals will tell you that profits from a takeover should be a bonus. You should buy on the merits of that share or life assurance policy alone. If, as a result of a subsequent takeover or flotation you benefit, then so much the better.

If you're looking for a straightforward savings plan, you'll want to be sure that the one you choose is going to make the most of your money.

And that's why you should consider a tax-efficient savings plan from Scottish Friendly, one of the UK's leading friendly societies.

With a consistent and enviable investment record Scottish Friendly's 10 year with profits savings plan offers you:



- The prospect of tax-free annual bonuses
- A lump sum final payment entirely free of tax
- The choice of paying monthly, annually or in a lump sum

Why not find out more about tax-free saving for you and your family today? Simply return the coupon to:

Scottish Friendly Assurance,
FREEPOST, Admalt 523,
Glasgow G2 1ST

or call us free on the number below.

Please send me more information on tax-free saving with Scottish Friendly

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____

MAKE YOUR
SAVINGS
WORK HARDER
AND ENJOY
THE RETURNS

TAX
FREE

Reply now and get a
FREE
COBBSCREW

Date of birth (age limit 75) _____

No. of people in household: _____

Adults _____ Children _____

From time to time, we may send you details of other Scottish Friendly products and services which we think may be of interest to you. If you do not wish to receive this information, tick this box. ☐

0800 585 625

Scottish
Friendly
ASSURANCE

Best performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance.

Future bonus rates and maturity values are not guaranteed.

*This quotation shows you how much you can save with this plan.

Member of ABI
Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority

CUT YOUR MORTGAGE PAYMENTS!

DISCOUNT 4.5% FOR 12 MONTHS
EFFECTIVE INITIAL RATE OF ONLY
3.49% (3.5% APR)

- No Arrangement Fees
- No Valuation Fees
- No Legal Fees
- No Mortgage Indemnity Premium
- Free "Lawcall" Legal Helpline
- Mortgage in conjunction with an established Building Society

WHAT YOU COULD SAVE

If you have a £50,000 Mortgage at 7.99% (8.3% APR) (as charged by many major lenders) this offer could save you as much as £167.50 per month for 12 months.*

Source: Mortgage Brain October 1995



General Accident

Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority

CALL
FREE
NOW

0500 100 200
AND LET US SHOW YOU HOW MUCH
YOU COULD SAVE

166/02

LINES
OPEN
24 HRS

Typical Example of costs payable for a 3.49% (3.5% APR) Remortgage.

Married couple, aged 30 and 35 years, applying for an interest only mortgage of £50,000 over 25 years, secured on a property valued at £80,000. 300 monthly mortgage payments of £146.48 gross. No compulsory insurance or commission. Total gross amount payable £33,716. Example based on a discount rate of 3.49% (3.5% APR) for 12 months from completion which is assumed to take place on the last day of a month, and assumes that the rate applicable for the discount rate period will apply for the full term of loan. The lender's base rate may vary from time to time, but a discount of 4.5% will apply for 12 months from completion. Please note, in practice the loan will revert to the society's base rate at the end of the discount period. It assumes no legal costs are incurred, deeds released and sealing fee £85, no valuation fee apply and own insurance arrangements fee of £20. Where an endowment policy is used as a repayment vehicle (though not compulsory) it must be assigned to the lender as additional security. This example does not constitute a quotation or contract. Full written details including a quotation are available on request from General Accident Life, 2 Rongier Street, York, YO1 1ER. All loans are subject to status and valuation. Loans are not available for periods under 10 years of age. This mortgage scheme is offered in conjunction with the Cheolville Building Society and is available only through General Accident Life, which is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. For life assurance, pension and investment, "Lawcall" facility is made available by National Solutions Network. MAXIMUM LOAN: Current balance plus up to 10% extra. Available up to 80% of property value. Minimum existing balance £45,000. Maximum loan £200,000 although exceptions will be considered. CONDITIONS: Must complete by 31.12.95. Available in England and Wales only. * Comparison based on example above but with standard rate of 7.99% (8.3% APR) resulting in 300 monthly mortgage payments of £237.17 gross. Total gross payable £33,716.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

TAX FREE Nest Egg

Yours for just £25 a month

Your savings are exempt from tax twice to help them build up fast in the Taxmaster scheme from Royal Liver Assurance.

First your money grows free of any tax deduction in a special Tax Exempt Fund. Then when you withdraw the proceeds after 10 years (or anytime after that as desired), the payout is tax free too! Free from all UK income tax and capital gains tax under current legislation.

No Building Society or Bank can offer both these tax benefits with life assurance cover included while you save. And you can invest as you prefer - £25 a month, £270 a year or a single lump sum of £2,200.

Taxmaster is a unit linked endowment policy which aims for steady growth from a broad spread of investments. You should note however that investment values can go down as well as up.

The scheme makes tax exempt saving simple. Post the coupon for full details or give us a call on the FREE Helpline.

Call FREE On
0800 66 11 11

Your Choice Of
FREE Gift
(when you take out a policy)

ROYAL LIVER
ASSURANCE
(An Incorporated Friendly Society)
Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority

Post to: Royal Liver Assurance, FREEPOST LV 3859, Liverpool, L3 1PW

FULL DETAILS SENT POST FREE • ENQUIRY ONLY • NO OBLIGATION

Please send me full details of Taxmaster, the tax exempt savings scheme.

Are you interested in tax exempt savings for children? Yes ☐ No ☐

Relationship to child/children: Parent/Guardian ☐ Grandparent ☐ Other ☐

BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

First Name

Street

Town

Postcode

Date of Birth

From time to time Royal Liver Assurance may notify you of other products and services which may be of interest.

Any information and/or advice provided from our free Helpline relates solely to the products offered by Royal Liver Assurance Limited unless it is expressly stated otherwise.

Post to: Royal Liver Assurance, FREEPOST LV 3859, Liverpool, L3 1PW

IN 9/95

مكتبة الامم

FEAR OF FINANCE Clifford German



The mighty Pru will make an almighty splash when it leaps into banking. The banking pool is already looking distinctly overcrowded with a new generation of telephone banking services competing with old-fashioned branch operations.

The Pru is starting with deposit accounts and own-brand mortgages financed from its own resources, but current accounts, credit cards and personal loans will surely follow.

Where the Pru leads, Legal & General and other big life insurance companies will surely have to follow. The Pru alone has six million insurance clients and they are prime targets for its banking services. Most bank account-holders also have, or will need, an insurance policy or investment plan, which will make them attractive targets for the insurance companies.

Both the banking and insurance industries have become overcrowded as a result of deregulation and the opportunity for building societies to offer a full range of banking services.

More recently, the explosive growth of telephone banking and insurance selling has brought a range of new entrants like First Direct and Direct Line into both the banking and insurance industries.

As a result, established banks, building societies and insurance companies are being forced to offer telephone-based operations of their own, which only adds to the over-capacity.

The big banks have also moved into insurance in a big way, setting up their own "bancassurance" companies, selling life, motor and household insurance policies to

their banking customers. They cannot complain if the insurance companies seek to reverse the process and diversify back into banking. The surprising thing really is that it has taken the insurance companies so long.

Insurers are, however, under growing pressure, caused by consumer resistance to buying big-ticket insurance and investment products. That in turn is the result of the recession, reluctance to take out long-term commitments and the bad publicity over mis-selling.

Banks have had some equally bad publicity, caused mainly by their ham-fisted efforts to cut costs and centralise services. Traditional loyalties are being undermined.

But it is easier for banks to persuade established customers to buy more sophisticated financial products than for insurance companies to integrate their business backward into banking. Insurance firms have little choice but to make the effort, however, and there is no doubt that in the process they will add enormously to the capacity in the banking industry.

The fact Prudential has decided to grow its own banking services rather than buy a building society is, however, bad news for middle-of-the-range insurance companies and building societies.

They may be too small to provide comparable services, and too big to downsize painlessly into a niche where they can provide more expensive and sophisticated services comparable with those provided by private banks and personal services stockbrokers. Further rationalisation in the financial services industry is sure to come and it may not all be bloodless.

BEST SAVINGS RATES									
Bank	Product	Rate	Interest	Term	Notes	Bank	Product	Rate	Interest
Barclays Bank	1 Year Fixed	4.75	Year			Barclays Bank	1 Year Fixed	4.75	Year
Barclays Bank	2 Year Fixed	5.00	Year			Barclays Bank	2 Year Fixed	5.00	Year
Barclays Bank	3 Year Fixed	5.25	Year			Barclays Bank	3 Year Fixed	5.25	Year
Barclays Bank	4 Year Fixed	5.50	Year			Barclays Bank	4 Year Fixed	5.50	Year
Barclays Bank	5 Year Fixed	5.75	Year			Barclays Bank	5 Year Fixed	5.75	Year
Barclays Bank	6 Year Fixed	6.00	Year			Barclays Bank	6 Year Fixed	6.00	Year
Barclays Bank	7 Year Fixed	6.25	Year			Barclays Bank	7 Year Fixed	6.25	Year
Barclays Bank	8 Year Fixed	6.50	Year			Barclays Bank	8 Year Fixed	6.50	Year
Barclays Bank	9 Year Fixed	6.75	Year			Barclays Bank	9 Year Fixed	6.75	Year
Barclays Bank	10 Year Fixed	7.00	Year			Barclays Bank	10 Year Fixed	7.00	Year
Barclays Bank	11 Year Fixed	7.25	Year			Barclays Bank	11 Year Fixed	7.25	Year
Barclays Bank	12 Year Fixed	7.50	Year			Barclays Bank	12 Year Fixed	7.50	Year
Barclays Bank	13 Year Fixed	7.75	Year			Barclays Bank	13 Year Fixed	7.75	Year
Barclays Bank	14 Year Fixed	8.00	Year			Barclays Bank	14 Year Fixed	8.00	Year
Barclays Bank	15 Year Fixed	8.25	Year			Barclays Bank	15 Year Fixed	8.25	Year
Barclays Bank	16 Year Fixed	8.50	Year			Barclays Bank	16 Year Fixed	8.50	Year
Barclays Bank	17 Year Fixed	8.75	Year			Barclays Bank	17 Year Fixed	8.75	Year
Barclays Bank	18 Year Fixed	9.00	Year			Barclays Bank	18 Year Fixed	9.00	Year
Barclays Bank	19 Year Fixed	9.25	Year			Barclays Bank	19 Year Fixed	9.25	Year
Barclays Bank	20 Year Fixed	9.50	Year			Barclays Bank	20 Year Fixed	9.50	Year
Barclays Bank	21 Year Fixed	9.75	Year			Barclays Bank	21 Year Fixed	9.75	Year
Barclays Bank	22 Year Fixed	10.00	Year			Barclays Bank	22 Year Fixed	10.00	Year
Barclays Bank	23 Year Fixed	10.25	Year			Barclays Bank	23 Year Fixed	10.25	Year
Barclays Bank	24 Year Fixed	10.50	Year			Barclays Bank	24 Year Fixed	10.50	Year
Barclays Bank	25 Year Fixed	10.75	Year			Barclays Bank	25 Year Fixed	10.75	Year
Barclays Bank	26 Year Fixed	11.00	Year			Barclays Bank	26 Year Fixed	11.00	Year
Barclays Bank	27 Year Fixed	11.25	Year			Barclays Bank	27 Year Fixed	11.25	Year
Barclays Bank	28 Year Fixed	11.50	Year			Barclays Bank	28 Year Fixed	11.50	Year
Barclays Bank	29 Year Fixed	11.75	Year			Barclays Bank	29 Year Fixed	11.75	Year
Barclays Bank	30 Year Fixed	12.00	Year			Barclays Bank	30 Year Fixed	12.00	Year
Barclays Bank	31 Year Fixed	12.25	Year			Barclays Bank	31 Year Fixed	12.25	Year
Barclays Bank	32 Year Fixed	12.50	Year			Barclays Bank	32 Year Fixed	12.50	Year
Barclays Bank	33 Year Fixed	12.75	Year			Barclays Bank	33 Year Fixed	12.75	Year
Barclays Bank	34 Year Fixed	13.00	Year			Barclays Bank	34 Year Fixed	13.00	Year
Barclays Bank	35 Year Fixed	13.25	Year			Barclays Bank	35 Year Fixed	13.25	Year
Barclays Bank	36 Year Fixed	13.50	Year			Barclays Bank	36 Year Fixed	13.50	Year
Barclays Bank	37 Year Fixed	13.75	Year			Barclays Bank	37 Year Fixed	13.75	Year
Barclays Bank	38 Year Fixed	14.00	Year			Barclays Bank	38 Year Fixed	14.00	Year
Barclays Bank	39 Year Fixed	14.25	Year			Barclays Bank	39 Year Fixed	14.25	Year
Barclays Bank	40 Year Fixed	14.50	Year			Barclays Bank	40 Year Fixed	14.50	Year
Barclays Bank	41 Year Fixed	14.75	Year			Barclays Bank	41 Year Fixed	14.75	Year
Barclays Bank	42 Year Fixed	15.00	Year			Barclays Bank	42 Year Fixed	15.00	Year
Barclays Bank	43 Year Fixed	15.25	Year			Barclays Bank	43 Year Fixed	15.25	Year
Barclays Bank	44 Year Fixed	15.50	Year			Barclays Bank	44 Year Fixed	15.50	Year
Barclays Bank	45 Year Fixed	15.75	Year			Barclays Bank	45 Year Fixed	15.75	Year
Barclays Bank	46 Year Fixed	16.00	Year			Barclays Bank	46 Year Fixed	16.00	Year
Barclays Bank	47 Year Fixed	16.25	Year			Barclays Bank	47 Year Fixed	16.25	Year
Barclays Bank	48 Year Fixed	16.50	Year			Barclays Bank	48 Year Fixed	16.50	Year
Barclays Bank	49 Year Fixed	16.75	Year			Barclays Bank	49 Year Fixed	16.75	Year
Barclays Bank	50 Year Fixed	17.00	Year			Barclays Bank	50 Year Fixed	17.00	Year
Barclays Bank	51 Year Fixed	17.25	Year			Barclays Bank	51 Year Fixed	17.25	Year
Barclays Bank	52 Year Fixed	17.50	Year			Barclays Bank	52 Year Fixed	17.50	Year
Barclays Bank	53 Year Fixed	17.75	Year			Barclays Bank	53 Year Fixed	17.75	Year
Barclays Bank	54 Year Fixed	18.00	Year			Barclays Bank	54 Year Fixed	18.00	Year
Barclays Bank	55 Year Fixed	18.25	Year			Barclays Bank	55 Year Fixed	18.25	Year
Barclays Bank	56 Year Fixed	18.50	Year			Barclays Bank	56 Year Fixed	18.50	Year
Barclays Bank	57 Year Fixed	18.75	Year			Barclays Bank	57 Year Fixed	18.75	Year
Barclays Bank	58 Year Fixed	19.00	Year			Barclays Bank	58 Year Fixed	19.00	Year
Barclays Bank	59 Year Fixed	19.25	Year			Barclays Bank	59 Year Fixed	19.25	Year
Barclays Bank	60 Year Fixed	19.50	Year			Barclays Bank	60 Year Fixed	19.50	Year
Barclays Bank	61 Year Fixed	19.75	Year			Barclays Bank	61 Year Fixed	19.75	Year
Barclays Bank	62 Year Fixed	20.00	Year			Barclays Bank	62 Year Fixed	20.00	Year
Barclays Bank	63 Year Fixed	20.25	Year			Barclays Bank	63 Year Fixed	20.25	Year
Barclays Bank	64 Year Fixed	20.50	Year			Barclays Bank	64 Year Fixed	20.50	Year
Barclays Bank	65 Year Fixed	20.75	Year			Barclays Bank	65 Year Fixed	20.75	Year
Barclays Bank	66 Year Fixed	21.00	Year			Barclays Bank	66 Year Fixed	21.00	Year
Barclays Bank	67 Year Fixed	21.25	Year			Barclays Bank	67 Year Fixed	21.25	Year
Barclays Bank	68 Year Fixed	21.50	Year			Barclays Bank	68 Year Fixed	21.50	Year
Barclays Bank	69 Year Fixed	21.75	Year			Barclays Bank	69 Year Fixed	21.75	Year
Barclays Bank	70 Year Fixed	22.00	Year			Barclays Bank	70 Year Fixed	22.00	Year
Barclays Bank	71 Year Fixed	22.25	Year			Barclays Bank	71 Year Fixed	22.25	Year
Barclays Bank	72 Year Fixed	22.50	Year			Barclays Bank	72 Year Fixed	22.50	Year
Barclays Bank	73 Year Fixed	22.75	Year			Barclays Bank	73 Year Fixed	22.75	Year
Barclays Bank	74 Year Fixed	23.00	Year			Barclays Bank	74 Year Fixed	23.00	Year
Barclays Bank	75 Year Fixed	23.25	Year			Barclays Bank	75 Year Fixed	23.25	Year
Barclays Bank	76 Year Fixed	23.50	Year			Barclays Bank	76 Year Fixed	23.50	Year
Barclays Bank	77 Year Fixed	23.75	Year			Barclays Bank	77 Year Fixed	23.75	Year
Barclays Bank	78 Year Fixed	24.00	Year			Barclays Bank	78 Year Fixed	24.00	Year
Barclays Bank	79 Year Fixed	24.25	Year			Barclays Bank	79 Year Fixed	24.25	Year
Barclays Bank	80 Year Fixed	24.50	Year			Barclays Bank	80 Year Fixed	24.50	Year
Barclays Bank	81 Year Fixed	24.75	Year			Barclays Bank	81 Year Fixed	24.75	Year
Barclays Bank	82 Year Fixed	25.00	Year			Barclays Bank	82 Year Fixed	25.00	Year
Barclays Bank	83 Year Fixed	25.25	Year			Barclays Bank	83 Year Fixed	25.25	Year
Barclays Bank	84 Year Fixed	25.50	Year			Barclays Bank	84 Year Fixed	25.50	Year
Barclays Bank	85 Year Fixed	25.75	Year			Barclays Bank	85 Year Fixed	25.75	Year
Barclays Bank	86 Year Fixed	26.00	Year			Barclays Bank	86 Year Fixed	26.00	Year
Barclays Bank	87 Year Fixed	26.25	Year			Barclays Bank	87 Year Fixed	26.25	Year
Barclays Bank	88 Year Fixed	26.50	Year			Barclays Bank	88 Year Fixed	26.50	Year
Barclays Bank	89 Year Fixed	26.75	Year			Barclays Bank	89 Year Fixed	26.75	Year
Barclays Bank	90 Year Fixed	27.00	Year			Barclays Bank	90 Year Fixed	27.00	Year
Barclays Bank	91 Year Fixed	27.25	Year			Barclays Bank	91 Year Fixed	27.25	Year
Barclays Bank	92 Year Fixed	27.50	Year			Barclays Bank	92 Year Fixed	27.50	Year
Barclays Bank	93 Year Fixed	27.75	Year			Barclays Bank	93 Year Fixed	27.75	Year
Barclays Bank	94 Year Fixed	28.00	Year			Barclays Bank	94 Year Fixed	28.00	Year
Barclays Bank	95 Year Fixed	28.25	Year			Barclays Bank	95 Year Fixed	28.25	Year
Barclays Bank	96 Year Fixed	28.50	Year			Barclays Bank	96 Year Fixed	28.50	Year
Barclays Bank	97 Year Fixed	28.75	Year			Barclays Bank	97 Year Fixed	28.75	Year
Barclays Bank	98 Year Fixed	29.00	Year			Barclays Bank	98 Year Fixed	29.00	Year
Barclays Bank	99 Year Fixed	29.25	Year			Barclays Bank	99 Year Fixed	29.25	Year
Barclays Bank	100 Year Fixed	29.50	Year			Barclays Bank	100 Year Fixed	29.50	Year

Best Savings Rates									
Bank	Product	Rate	Interest	Term	Notes	Bank	Product	Rate	Interest
FIXED RATE									
Barclays Bank	1 Year Gold	4.75	Year			Barclays Bank	1 Year Gold	4.75	Year
Barclays Bank	2 Year Gold	5.00	Year			Barclays Bank	2 Year Gold	5.00	Year
Barclays Bank	3 Year Gold	5.25	Year			Barclays Bank	3 Year Gold	5.25	Year
Barclays Bank	4 Year Gold	5.50	Year			Barclays Bank	4 Year Gold	5.50	Year
Barclays Bank	5 Year Gold	5.75	Year			Barclays Bank	5 Year Gold	5.75	Year
FISCAL ACCOUNTS									
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	5.50	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	5.50	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.00	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.00	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.10	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.10	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.20	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.20	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.30	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.30	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.40	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.40	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.50	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.50	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.60	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.60	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.70	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.70	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.80	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.80	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.90	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	6.90	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.00	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.00	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.10	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.10	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.20	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.20	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.30	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.30	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.40	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.40	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.50	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.50	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.60	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.60	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.70	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.70	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.80	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.80	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.90	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	7.90	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.00	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.00	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.10	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.10	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.20	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.20	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.30	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.30	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.40	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.40	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.50	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.50	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.60	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.60	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.70	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.70	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.80	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.80	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.90	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	8.90	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.00	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.00	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.10	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.10	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.20	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.20	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.30	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.30	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.40	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.40	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.50	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.50	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.60	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.60	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.70	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.70	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.80	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.80	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.90	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	9.90	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.00	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.00	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.10	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.10	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.20	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.20	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.30	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.30	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.40	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.40	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.50	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.50	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.60	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.60	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.70	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.70	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.80	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.80	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.90	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	10.90	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.00	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.00	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.10	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.10	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.20	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.20	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.30	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.30	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.40	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.40	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.50	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.50	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.60	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.60	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.70	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.70	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.80	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.80	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.90	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	11.90	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.00	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.00	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.10	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.10	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.20	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.20	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.30	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.30	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.40	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.40	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.50	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.50	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.60	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.60	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.70	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.70	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.80	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.80	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.90	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	12.90	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.00	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.00	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.10	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.10	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.20	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.20	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.30	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.30	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.40	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.40	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.50	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.50	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.60	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.60	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.70	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.70	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.80	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.80	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.90	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	13.90	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.00	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.00	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.10	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.10	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.20	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.20	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.30	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.30	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.40	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.40	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.50	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.50	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.60	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.60	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.70	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.70	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.80	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.80	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.90	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	14.90	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.00	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.00	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.10	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.10	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.20	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.20	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.30	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.30	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.40	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.40	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.50	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.50	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.60	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.60	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.70	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.70	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.80	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.80	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.90	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	15.90	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.00	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.00	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.10	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.10	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.20	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.20	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.30	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.30	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.40	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.40	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.50	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.50	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.60	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.60	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.70	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.70	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.80	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.80	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.90	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	16.90	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.00	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.00	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.10	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.10	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.20	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.20	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.30	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.30	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.40	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.40	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.50	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.50	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.60	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.60	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.70	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.70	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.80	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.80	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.90	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	17.90	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.00	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.00	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.10	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.10	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.20	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.20	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.30	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.30	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.40	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.40	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.50	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.50	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.60	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.60	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.70	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.70	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.80	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.80	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.90	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	18.90	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.00	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.00	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.10	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.10	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.20	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.20	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.30	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.30	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.40	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.40	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.50	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.50	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.60	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.60	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.70	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.70	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.80	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.80	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.90	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	19.90	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.00	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.00	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.10	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.10	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.20	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.20	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.30	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.30	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.40	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.40	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.50	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.50	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.60	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.60	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.70	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.70	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.80	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.80	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.90	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	20.90	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	21.00	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	21.00	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	21.10	Year			Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	21.10	Year
Barclays Bank	Money by Mail	21.20							

money



Mid-life butterflies: the mortgage may be in hand, but there are plenty of other things to worry about in your forties

Life begins at 40

The children have grown up: one wants a new car, the other needs help at university, and you're wondering whether you've put enough into your pension plan. Justin Urquhart-Stewart presents a guide to mid-life financial planning

In our forties, and with a maturing family, we move into a new stage of life. The mortgage is replaced by either our son's motorcycle or daughter's boyfriend as our biggest worry. Our career path is not quite as clear as before and there is that nagging feeling that retirement is not quite as far away as we had hoped.

So it is time for a mid-life financial service check. This is now a key moment for some considered thought and reflection about your family's financial position. So sit down and prepare to change your oil and polish your plough.

I have previously mentioned the benefit of constructing a family balance sheet of your assets and liabilities. Now is the time to do this again. If things have not gone quite as you had intended, then the good news is that there is still time to do something about it.

Firstly review the assets, which should include your home and its contents as well as some savings. Hopefully there is a pension scheme (either a personal or a company one) running.

Check up on all the values of these items, not forgetting any insurance policies you may have. Against this, list your liabilities. These will include the mortgage and any other loans and overdrafts.

Add both columns up and, with a bit of luck, this will show a positive net worth. Don't worry if it is not as large as you had hoped. Raising a family is not cheap.

But now is the time for some clear direction. This is the stage for you to concentrate on building up your net worth while covering the other expenses heading your way.

The chances are that your children will remain a liability for some time yet. As my mother used to say whenever we spoke about leaving home: "The only thing you leave at home is a mess".

This, it would appear, is an increasingly common position for parents when attempting that final push to give flight to their offspring. We are finding it increasingly difficult to ensure that our children are able to exist without further parental support.

University and college may be vital but, in these days of limited grants, they are expensive: over £3,000 per annum. Inevitably, this is

leading many offspring to consider staying under the parental wing while studying.

Although there are student loans, few of us wish to see our children in debt as they embark on their careers.

Your parents also need planning for as well as children. It may not be the most palatable subject to discuss, but by now they will have retired and it is sensible to discuss the provision for their care.

Whether it is living with you or in sheltered housing, start considering the alternatives soon.

Additionally the preparation of powers of attorney to cover for mental incapacity is essential for all of those concerned if something does occur.

Good housekeeping here also includes a gentle reminder about wills and appointment of executors being kept up to date. None of these are expensive, but they can have expensive consequences if not addressed.

Apart from the hatchlings making a noisy and prolonged departure, it is to be hoped that your expenses are declining and your disposable income is improving. But before quiet holidays for two are planned, I must counsel severe caution.

Now is the time for you to be increasing payments into investments for retirement. If your pension has grown check it anyway to establish an estimated annual income from it.

Can you live on that now? Or more to the point, could you live on it in 15 to 20 years' time, taking into account inflation? Seek some professional guidance. Actuaries may not be very amusing but they are very useful.

But don't over-commit yourself. It is difficult if not impossible to extract money back from a pension scheme and expensive to scale back commitments once they have been made. You may need to access the cash (for university fees?). If there is too much uncertainty, consider personal equity plans as an alternative. These are tax-free and will allow you greater flexibility.

Most of our savings and investment pots are likely to be still quite modest. Try and identify how you can increase monthly contributions to savings schemes. In a few years' time you will appreciate anything you can put away now.

Check to see if you have any old endowment policies due to mature. Yes, they may only have been £25 per month but hopefully they have amassed a reasonable value. Check also if you have any company save-as-you-earn schemes maturing. If not, now is a good time to start one if your employer has such a scheme.

If you are fortunate enough to have these maturing then seek advice. But take care. Financial advisers sniff out lump sums they can earn commission on better than aardvarks do ants.

Go for quality advice and shop around. I don't believe in free advice - they are only getting their money from you elsewhere.

They and you must look at the whole picture to include the mortgage and see whether it is better to pay that off first. Each circumstance will be different.

There is an additional issue here. These days earlier retirement dates are becoming more common. It would be wise to include this in your planning, particularly if the chances of further employment become more difficult.

I add to this critical illness cover. First check with your employer for any cover. If this is low or you are self-employed then shop around. It is very useful but can be expensive. Don't worry if you can't replace all your income. You can certainly ease the situation. So hope for the best but plan for the worst.

I know none of us wish to talk about it, but we must address our own mortality. As part of the mid-life service check take stock of your family's wills. What are you going to leave to whom, and how?

A review will throw up any questions on inheritance tax, executors to help after you have gone and whether you need to establish any simple trust for other family areas, such as children by a former marriage.

So I hope this gives an outline of your mid-life service. Subject to some failing bodywork and maybe a bit of dodgy undersealing in years to come, your financial arrangements should be in good order for some years.

But, as they say, check it regularly. Your financial oil and water levels always need watching.

The author is business development director at Barclays Stockbrokers.

TE W

Call us about an alternative to putting your savings in a bank or building society which is still low risk. The Virgin Income PEP. The cheapest high income PEP on the market.

direct (0345) 95 95 95

Virgin Direct Personal Financial Service Ltd is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and MRO. The price of units and any income from them can go down as well as up. You may not get back all the money you invest. Virgin Direct does not offer investment advice nor make any recommendations about investments. We only market our own products. For your security, all telephone calls to Virgin Direct will be recorded.

BEFORE YOU MAKE A MID-LIFE DECISION Do

Sit down and draw up a balance sheet of your financial assets and liabilities. Be prepared for some continuing expenses, especially if your children go to college. Draw up a plan to increase your future savings, investment and pensions provisions. Ensure you and your spouse have up-to-date wills.

Don't

Forget to persuade your parents to make their own financial plans to cope with possible nursing care in their old age as well as inheritance tax planning. Tie up too much money in a pension scheme. You might need some free capital for emergencies. Consider a personal equity plan as a compromise. Forget critical illness or health-care planning.

62.9% AFTER TAX! PAST PERFORMANCE

THE GUARANTEED INVESTMENT BOND

At last, an investment that can offer excellent past performance, professionally managed funds and low charges. The Guaranteed Investment Bond is a unit-linked investment that aims to provide your money with the growth it deserves. There's security too - the Bond has a money back guarantee on the 5th policy anniversary!

The figure above is calculated over 5 years and is equivalent to an amazing 10.26% per annum. It assumes that you had been able to invest in the Guaranteed Fund 5 years ago, based on the investment mix that we are offering you today (70% UK Equity, 20% Fixed Interest, 5% Property and 5% Cash Deposit) and maintained at these levels for the duration of the investment. The upshot is that a £10,000 investment would have been worth a staggering £16,295 when cashed in on the 29th

September 1995*. Full written details are available on request.

So, if you'd like to benefit from potentially high returns call us today FREE on 0500 100 200 or fill in the coupon below.

*Source: HSW and General Accident Life, bid to bid basis, with all additional management charges deducted at the end of each policy year. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The value of this investment can go down as well as up, and apart from the fifth anniversary, is not guaranteed. The current law relating to taxation is liable to unforeseen changes.



General Accident

Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority

CALL FREE NOW

0500 100 200

LINES OPEN 24 HRS

ACT NOW! TO REQUEST DETAILS ABOUT THIS EXCITING INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY!

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms Forename(s) Surname

Address

Postcode

Date of Birth / / You may telephone me on: 15471

Smoker ☐ Non Smoker ☐

Send to: The Guaranteed Investment Bond, General Accident, FREEPOST, YORK, YO1 1BB. Information you provide by phone or coupon may be used to inform you of other products and services available from the General Accident Group. If you do not wish to receive such information tick here: ☐ For your security your call with General Accident will be recorded.

WHY ON EARTH DO I WANT TO OWN AN OSTRICH?

For private individuals and corporate buyers the Ostrich Farming Corporation looks after the birds for you, offering the purchaser:-

51.6% commission return annually.

Income payments throughout each year.

25 year commercial breeding life.

An asset that continues to appreciate with breeding maturity.

Capital Gains Tax benefit opportunities.

Outright purchase with single payment.

An asset that is wholly owned by you.

Easy payment plan for Breeder Chicks.

Throughout the UK and Europe, our farms and facilities are the largest and the most technically advanced.

A product that grows financially and naturally.

Ostrich produce has been described as "the cash crop of the nineties"

The markets for Ostrich produce and breeding birds are detailed in the free video and brochure

PLEASE TELEPHONE (01623) 422700

FAX (01623) 422800

Office hours Mon - Sat 9am to 6pm
Sun 10am to 4pm

OVERSEAS +44 (0) 1623 422700

International Headquarters

SHERWOOD HOUSE,

RANSOM WOOD PARK,

SOUTHWELL ROAD WEST,

MANSFIELD,

NG21 0HJ.



When purchased the ostrich is an asset wholly owned by the purchaser, with no investment or share participation in the Ostrich Farming Corporation Ltd.

Find out why pension plans are not all the same.

Perhaps you think that all pension plans are the same. If you do, then you would be making a big mistake. Here are some of the reasons why you should consider an Equitable Pension Plan.

THE EQUITABLE LIFE:

- Pays no commission to third parties for the introduction of new business.
- Has no shareholders.

OUR PENSION PLAN:

- Lets you retire earlier or later than planned - without penalty.
- Lets you vary your contributions - without penalty.
- Provides full return of fund in the event of death before retirement.

So, if you would like to find out more about how The Equitable Pension Plan is not the same as most others, call us direct on Aylesbury (01296) 26226 or send off the coupon below for more information by post and by telephone.

Information/advice will only be given on Equitable group products regulated by the Personal Investment Authority.

THE EQUITABLE LIFE, FREEPOST, WALTON STREET, AYLESBURY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE HP21 7BR

To: The Equitable Life, FREEPOST, WALTON STREET, AYLESBURY, Bucks HP21 7BR

I would welcome details on The Equitable's pension plans. I am self-employed ☐ I am an employee not in a company pension scheme ☐ INRAG

NAME (Mr/Ms/Ms)

ADDRESS

Tel (Office)

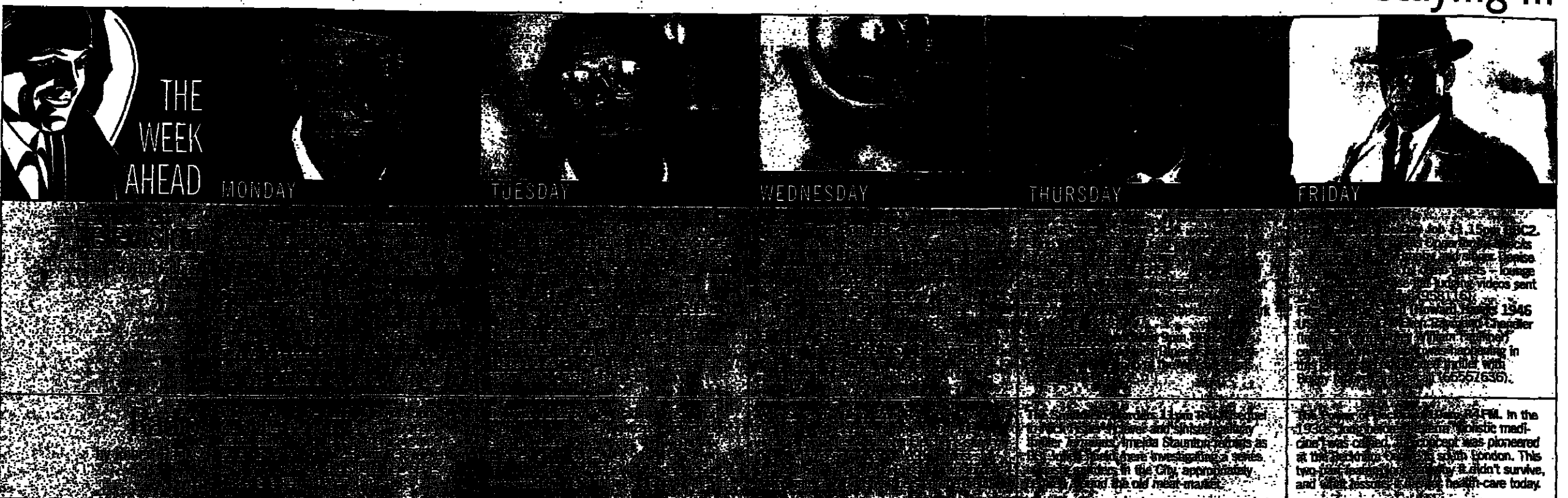
Tel (Home)

Date of Birth

Postcode

We guarantee that an Equitable contract for The Equitable Group is all services, other than those listed below, are provided under a contract with Equitable Life Ltd or its wholly owned subsidiary Equitable Life Insurance Co Ltd.

The Equitable Life
You profit from our principles



Sunday Television and Radio

BBC 1

- 7.30 The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles (2676829).
- 8.15 Discovering Eve (S) (6395962).
- 8.30 Breakfast with Frost (77813).
- 9.30 First Light (S) (40813).
- 10.00 See Heart (S) (64542).
- 10.30 Sueno - World Spanish (S) (1864610).
- 10.45 This Multimedia Business (S) (1869165).
- 11.00 The Heat (S) (1381829).
- 12.00 CountryFile (S) (12815).
- 12.30 News; on the Record (71436).
- 1.30 EastEnders. Omnibus (S) (6447165). *
- 2.55 Columbo. Episode directed by Jonathan Demme and starring Louis Jourdan (R) (7097829). *
- 4.10 The Bookworm Cliff Ryds Jones returns with a new series, discovering why James Bond killed his creator, Ian Fleming, and why Eric Bliton is causing a storm in Hollywood (S) (8928694).
- 4.40 The British Show (S) (303944).
- 5.20 The Great Antiques Hunt. In Worcester (S) (370900).
- 6.00 News. Weather (355726). *
- 6.20 Local News (963894).
- 6.25 Songs of Praise From St Philip's Cathedral, Birmingham (S) (759455). *
- 7.00 Last of the Summer Wine (S) (5691). *
- 7.30 The Showstoppers. Gary Wilmot, Barbara Dickson, Michael Fernsten and Tom Conti belt out some song-and-dance numbers from stage musicals (S) (321848).
- 8.20 Children in the City (S) (483813).
- 8.30 Keeping Up Appearances. Hyacinth buys a new car (S) (3766). *
- 9.00 Pride and Prejudice. G6. Two weddings and a conclusion to Andrew Davies's fine Austen adaptation. See Preview; p28 (S) (607639). *
- 9.55 News. Weather (336707). *
- 10.10 In Search of Happiness. Angus Deayton tries out utopian communities, beginning with an alien who is an island off Australia, and a commune in Copenhagen (S) (278417).
- 10.40 Other Worlds. Documentary series about ancient beliefs in the modern world. Poh Teck Tung is a Buddhist charity which collects unclaimed dead bodies from the streets of Bangkok (815097).
- 11.40 ~~Planet of the Apes~~ Planet of the Apes (Franklin J Schaffner 1968 US). Highly entertaining sci-fi adventure in which astronaut Charlton Heston crash-lands on a planet that looks suspiciously like earth, but is run by chimps (2146).
- 1.30 ~~Weather~~ Weather (309456). To 1.35am.


REGIONS: Wales: 12.00pm Homeland 10.10 Kane's Wales 10.40 In Search of Happiness 11.20 Other Worlds 12.10m Planet of the Apes Nc 2.55pm New Year's Eve 3.20 Home Truths 4.00 Our Roaring Republic

BBC 2

6.00 *Miniature Worlds (R)* (7815851).
6.10 *First Tuesday* in November. The Melbourne Cup, Australia's premier horse race (R) (2954233).
7.00 *Playdays (R)* (S) (5463833).
7.20 *The Animals of Farthing Wood (S)* (9637610). *
7.45 *Jackanory: Home on the Range*. John Barrowman reads (S) (3387455).
8.00 *Japanese Grand Prix*. The whole of this morning's Japanese Grand Prix, witnessed by Master Walker (R) (S) (9374191).
9.55 *Tavel Bar*. Game show (S) (9412981).
10.20 *Grange Hill*. Class of 1985 (1431504). *
10.50 *The Little Vampire* (9986725).
11.15 *Growing Up Wild*. Animals who live in the dark (S) (5925455).
11.40 *Star Trek (R)* (5272436). *
12.30 *The Sunday Show (S)* (4266261).
1.15 *The O Zone (S)* (28710252).
1.30 *Arrested Development* (S) (9374191).
2.00 *Snooker - Grand Prix*. David Vane presents frames seven to 17 of the Skoda Grand Prix final (Subsequent programmes may run late) (S) (93453813).
5.10 *Rugby Special: Orrell vs Wasps*. Plus, the Fijians at Cardiff (5084829).
7.00 *On the Road Again*. Back on the hippy trail. See *Preview*, 23/8 (5223).
7.30 *Arrested*. In 1900, there were three working women in Britain was a domestic servant. Quiet Revolution looks back at a way of life that has disappeared - or has it? Are domestic servants about to make a big comeback (130726). *
8.20 *The Money Programme*. Asks management guru Tom Peters whether listening to the management gurus is doing us any good (494691). *
9.00 *Cheney Doreys - the Other Hollywood*. Examining why British cinema failed to keep up with Germany and America (S) (9291).
10.00 *Japanese Grand Prix*. Highlights (S) (270875).
10.40 *Snooker - Grand Prix (R)* (9331165).
12.10 *Barry the Bat Whispers* (Roland West 1930 US). Postponed from three weeks ago, this is a fun, visually striking (miniature sets; overhead cameras) early talkie comedy horror about strange goings-on at an isolated Californian mansion. With Chester Morris, Grace Hamilton (4173450). To 1.40pm.
2.00 *France 24*. French TV Collectables (47189). 4.00 Languages: French Experience (63301). 5.00 *Itallissimo* (37176).

REGIONS. Wales: 1.30pm Welsh Lobby 5.10 Scrums 5. Nt: 1.30pm 29 Bedford Street.

ITV/London

6.00 GMTV 5.00 The Sunday Review. 6.30 News and
 Sport. 7.00 The Sunday Programme (81504).
 9.00 Disney Adventures (S) (3863900). *
 9.25 Disney Parade (S) (7634720). *
 10.15 Link (S) (2541558). *
 10.30 This Sunday, *Heard the one about the*
Benedictine abbot who fell in love with the
'Anglican nun'? Tune in. Then, at 11.00am:
Morning Worship from the Church of the Good
*Shepherd, Cambridge (S) (10977). **
 12.30 *Crossroads (46097).*
 1.00 News Weather (259728271). *
 1.10 Jonathan Dimbleby (S) (3960962).
 2.00 Opening Shot. Visiting the first *Astoria*
Convention in London and watch his creator,
Albert Uderzo, at the drawing board. (S) (9271).
 2.30 The Sunday Match. Luton Town vs Charlton
 Athletic (39048558).
 5.10 *Rags to Riches. First of four films going behind*
the scenes of the fashion business (1455813).
 5.40 The London Programme (440252).
 6.10 London Tonight. Weather (331146). *
 6.30 News, *Weather (293707).* *
 6.40 *Goodfield's Diary. The first surviving British*
film featuring the 1895 Diary - a mysterious
shipwreck, and Danny Breen (278165).
 7.30 *Heartbeat. A travelling hippy causes a tragedy*
*(S) (69225). **
 8.30 *You've Been Framed! (S) (8542).* *
 9.00 *London's Burning. A blaze at a timber yard (S)*
(2078). *
 10.00 *Hale and Pace (S) (9362).* *
 10.30 News, *Weather (559184).* *
 10.45 The South Bank Show. *Melvyn Bragg says,*
"Dame Judi Dench, this is your life" (S)
(463252). See Preview, p28.
 11.45 *Shakespeare's London. Does a Barry*
Norman on the London theatre scene, this week
reviewing 'Ira Arts, Britain's leading Asian
theatre company, in its first co-production with
the Royal National Theatre, Cyrano (437788).
 12.20 *Sledge Hammer. Sledge hunts a missing person*
— just for a change (8529059).
 12.50 *Hollywood Report (R) (S) (5078635).*
 1.20 *Tennball (R) (S) (5582030).*
 2.10 *Cue the Music. Featuring The Rosen in a reunion*
concert (5969295).
 3.10  *Cool Hand Luke (Stuart Rosenberg) 1967*
Paul Newman was the star of the penitentiary
classic as coffee cake salesman who slips his chains and
goes on the run in this exciting, well-worn prison
movie (95969479).
 5.15 *Nite Bites Cockney tips. (R) (8492672).*
 5.30 News (41108). To 6.00am.

Channel 4

- 6.05 **Bilbo Baggins** (R) (405/45/55).
- 7.00 **The Herbs** (R) (736/64/69).
- 7.15 **Life On Earth** (R) (S) (272/52).
- 7.45 **The Great Bong** (S) (337/25/23).
- 8.00 **The Baby-Sitters Club** (238/58/13).
- 8.35 **Where on Earth Is Carmen Sandiego?** (64/07/10).
- 8.55 **Enosquad** (S) (759/11/65).
- 9.25 **Running the Holes** (R) (S) (599/127/1). *
- 9.30 **The Pink Panther Show** (S) (630/47/07).
- 10.00 **100%!!! Real Men** (S) (S) (245/33/49).
- 11.15 **Saved by the Bell: The New Class**. The kids start up a TV station. As they do (361/4417). *
- 10.40 **Wise Up**. Nine to 14-year olds create their own reportage (664/327/1).
- 11.15 **Roadside** (85/44/55).
- 11.25 **Mission Impossible**. The team have to overthrow a Balkan dictator with the help of a memory man. On, those 1960s... (12/209/00).
- 1.15 **3-2-1 Action!** Lardozzi vs. Juventus (682/56/43/6).
- 3.30 **ERUSA** The Tall Target (Anthony Mann 1951 US). Gripping, little-known thriller starring Dick Powell as a disgraced police detective attempting to prevent the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln on the train carrying him to Washington for his inauguration in 1861. Powell's character is called John Kennedy. Spooky (16/707).
- 5.00 **Hollywood Omnibus**. The kids from Chester and their combined antics of last week (S) (3900). *
- 6.00 **The Persuaders!** Stead Cusack plays a
- 7.00 **Expatience**. Electric blues. Loads of lovely time-lapse photography to enjoy as the biffins come up with the latest theories about thunderstorms (R) (S) (443/6). *
- 8.00 **Hidden Hands – a Different History of Modernism** During the 1950s, the CIA used covert funding to promote the work of Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko and other American Abstract Expressionist painters. But why? Ex-gangster director William Claxton, painter Patrick Heron and historian Arthur Schinger join attempt to unravel the possible reasons (S) (31/84).
- 9.00 **Witness** The story of Canadian choirmaster John Galfennie and his abusive ways (3320). *
- 10.00 **ERUSA** **Dark Mark My Sweet** (James Foley 1990 US). More Nineties noir, this one, according to the *Radio Times*, including "violence, swearing, nudity, sex scenes and substance abuse". See *The Big Film*, p28 (S) (183571/84). *
- 12.05 **ERUSA** **Hannemann** (Istvan Szabo 1988 HunW Ger). The western director Istvan Szabo (Rosa Maria Brandauer collaborations (after *Mephisto* and *Colonel Red*) tells of a clairvoyant, who starts to work for the Nazis (462/911/8). To 2.c.m.

ITV/Regions

ANGLIA
As London escape 12.30pm Diogenes (4650/97), 2.00 The Shape of Things (59271), 2.30 Rock On (55355/449), 3.50 The New Show (52153), 4.00 News (59230/31), 4.15 The Diogenes (46501/46), 12.15pm The Powers That Be (59272), 2.45pm Supermarket Reality (59532/301), 1.00am Film The Man Who Walked Towards The Day (44554/7), 2.45am The Album Show (46565/56), 3.40am Hollywood Report (59255/49), 4.00am News (59230/31), 4.15pm The New Show (52157/59), 5.00-5.30am Voloduction (59382).

THE TALKING HORSE
As London escape 12.30pm Tye, Newsweek (2292/252), 2.00am The Real Connection (59256/57), 2.00am Tye In Heaven (54727/26), 2.55pm Tye's The Theologizing People (72005/97), 4.35 Tye from Amsterdam (74668/13), 5.30 Tye and the Human Film (59256/57), 5.30 Tye With Thee, 11.45am Tye Night (45777/68), 12.20am Theanones (74668/13), 2.45am Hollywood Report (59255/49), 3.15am Zanz Digen Den (59421/27), 1.00am Tye (59259/18), 4.00am News (59230/31), 4.30-5.30am Voloduction (59382).

CENTRAL
As London escape 12.30pm The Newsweek (59201/46), 2.00am Tye's Your Show (59271), 2.30 The Central March (59278/8), 3.00 The Central March (59278/8), 3.30 Tye (71707/7), 11.45am Film: Lush (71679/92), 2.45am Hollywood Report (78274/79), 3.10am Cue the Music (59255/49), 4.00am News (59230/31), 4.30-5.30am Eternity Aeon Eyes (47795/42).

RTN
As London escape 12.25pm World Ballad Box (2292/252), 2.00am The Newsweek (59201/46), 2.30 Tye's The Ultimate Challenge (57639), 3.00am World Ballad (59271), 2.30 World's Gaudiest Times (7417), 3.00am Tye's World Match Plus (59255/49), 3.30am World's Match Plus (59255/49), 3.30am, Crop-Hill (45225/50), 4.00am Tye's She Works (13765/42), 4.55 World's Perfect Pitch (59255/49), 5.25 World's Telly (59255/49), 5.30am World's Match Plus (59255/49), 5.30am, 11.45am Pitcher, Call Block H (4659/43), 12.45am Film The Professionalist (59594/79), 2.50am Hollywood Report (59255/49), 3.20am Cue the Music (59594/79), 4.15-5.30am Film: Ambush at Taramakaj (59403/53).

NEWSHAM
As London escape 12.30pm Show News (55565/67), 2.00 The News (59271), 2.30 News (59271), 2.30 News (59271), 4.50 Film: Return from the River Road (72475/59), 11.45am The Fire (58214/6), 12.10am Show News Right (5597/50), 1.00am Show Beyond Reality (59255/49), 2.00am Tye's The Man Who Walked Towards The Day (44554/7), 2.45am The Album Show (46565/56), 3.40am Hollywood Report (59255/49), 4.00am News (59230/31), 4.15-5.30am Voloduction (59382).

WESTWOOD
As London escape 12.30pm Westwoodbury Update (52001/46), 2.00am The News (59271), 2.30 News (59271), 2.30 News (59271), 4.50 Film: Newey City Wolf (73555), 5.00 The Shape of Things (59383), 5.30 Hollywood News (79181/8), 11.45am Call Block H (4659/43), 12.45am Film: The Intellectual (59542/79), 2.50am Hollywood Report (7831/67), 3.20am Cue the Music (59594/79), 4.15-5.30am Film: Ambush at Taramakaj (59403/53).

SAC
As CA escape 7.50am The Great Bong (536/504), 8.05 The Babylonian Club (73252/48), 8.30am Babylon (73258/57), 8.55am The Yellow Submarine (59255/49), 9.00am The Powers (59251), 10.45am Newey City Wolf (73555), 11.15 The Anemones (54455/51), 11.55am Howard a Road (74214/55/3), 12.00am The Shape of Things (59383), 12.00am Hollywood News (79181/8), 11.45am Equinox (51470), 1.00am A Wolf by the Called Film (13755/59), 2.00am F R I (81653), 3.30m Robot Y (59255/49), 7.25am The News (59230/31), 8.00am News (59230/31), 8.15am William Jones (76223/3), 9.10am Salt Air (53699/4), 9.30am Salt Station (52555/5), 9.30am Jakes' Progress (5758/9), 11.05am Tye, The Day To Day (59255/49).

Radio

Radio 1
815.90pm BBC
7.00pm The News Greening 10.00
Dance Peasce 2.00 Soul on Sunday
4.00 UK Top 40 7.00 The end of
the Business 8.00 Radio 1 Rock Show
10.00 Andy Kershaw 12.00 Mark
Tonderai 4.00-6.00am Gene Warren

Radio 2
68.92am BBC
7.00am Don Maclean 9.05 Bob
Hoyes 10.30 Hayes on Sunday
12.00 Desmond Carrington 2.00
Benny Green 3.00 Alan Kelly
4.00 'Yes at the Bartyede 4.30
Sing Something Simple 5.00 Charlie
Chesser 7.00 Tom Court 8.30 Sun-
day 9.00 The News 10.00
10.00 Magic Moment 12.05 Steve
Madden 3.00-6.00am Alex Lester

Radio 3
90.52am BBC
6.35pm Open University
6.55 Weather
7.00 Sacred and Profane
8.55 Choice of Threes
9.00 Brian Kay's Sunday Morning
9.30 The News 10.00 Alan Kelly
1.00 News; Fairness Issue Songbook
1.15 Fairness Issue
1.45 The Berlin Philharmonic Play
Maurice, Five Songs from Die Kin-
deroper, Der Schwan, Symphony No 5
3.35 Spirit of the Age
4.35 Edinburgh International Festival
1995.5. Solvay Kratzenberg
(soprano), Arvid Steen-Nokleberg
(piano), A Performance of songs
by Raminoran, Nielsen, Silvestre
and Mozart alongside Grieg's
song cycle Haugtussa
5.45 Sunday Feature: The Posthu-
mous Life of John Keats, Andrew
Adams examines how the View of
Keats has changed over the past
175 years. See Choice.
6.50 Yuri Bashmet, (Viola), Mikhail
Muntian (piano), Chac: Sonata
No 3 in G minor, Brahms:
Sonata in F minor, Op 120 No
1; Scherzo in C minor
7.30 The News; David, Tina Peo-
ple's drama tells the true story
of a man who not only survives
extensive brain damage but also
recovers religion.
10.30 Record Review: Building a
discography
1.15-12.30am Coax, Open-ended
discussion programme.

Choice

The big Keats fest gets underway properly today, starting with a dramatisation of *The Eve of St Agnes* (2.30pm R4), narrated by Michael Maloney. It's an intriguing idea, but turns out a little laborious. More rewarding is *The Posthumous Life of John Keats* (5.45pm R3), a look at the poet's fluctuating reputation.

Barnes visits the Samye Ling Tibetan Buddhist Centre.

12.00 News.

12.30 The Late Show: *The Devil in the Cloakyard* by Micheline Wandor.

12.48 Shipping Forecast.

1.00am *As World Service.*

Radio 5

683, 993kHz MW

6.05am *Stratight Up 6.30 The Breakfast Programme 9.05 Sunday Morning 10.35 Speeded Assessment 12.00 Midday Edition 12.15 The Big Bys 1.05 Hold the Front Page 1.35 You Cannot Be Serious? 2.30 Gary Lineker's Sunday Sport 6.05 Jim and Alex 7.00 News Extra 7.35 The Acid Test 8.05 Legal Lapses 8.35 World 10.05 9.05 Daily World- wide 10.05 The PR Games 10.35 Crime Scan 11.00 Night Extra 11.30 Nightrail 2.05 Up All Night 5.09-6.00am Morning Reports*

Classic FM

100.0, 101.5MHz FM

6.00am *Paul McCartney 9.00 Classic Rock 10.00 Celebrating Classic 1.00 Alan Mann 3.00 Westward Ho! 4.00 Variations on a Theme by Haydn. 4.00 Robert Booth 7.00 BookBrowse 8.00 Evening Concert. Mozart: Quintet for Horn and Strings. Britten: Fantasy Quintet in F minor. Glazunov: Rhapsody for Horns and Strings. Mendelssohn: Concerto in C major. Howard's Week 12.00 Andrew Lion 4.00-6.00am Mark Griffiths*

Virgin Radio

102.1, 107.1, 126.9MHz MW 105.8MHz FM

6.00am *Janet Lee Grace 10.00 Paul Cayton 2.00 Nicky Horse 6.00 Midge Johnson 8.00 The Sound of the Sea 2.00-6.00am Robin Banks*

World Service

108.9MHz LW

1.00am *World News 1.10 Press Review 1.25 Western Philosophers in a Nutshell 1.35 Anybody Can Be a Communist 2.00 News 2.10 The World This Week 2.30 The Month 3.00 World News 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Jazz for the Aspiring 4.00 Newsweek 4.30 Europe Today 5.00 Newsday 5.30 Europe Today*

Satellite

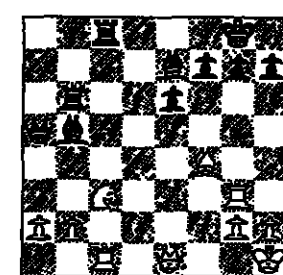
ONE LINE
 7.00m Hour of Power (728292)
 8.00m Shoot (430542)
 9.00m Ghost (31691), 11.00m
 Postcards from the Heart (58770)
 1.00 The Hit Me (69692), 2.00
 The Dulles of Hazard (92349)
 3.00 The Last Cowboy (73463)
 4.00 WFF (90292), 5.00 Night
 Escapes (5233), 5.30 Mighty Mor-
 phin Power Rangers (2829), 6.00
 The Simpsons (5542), 6.30 The
 Simpsons (9374), 7.00 Beauty
 and the Beast (9374)
 8.00m Star Trek (31707), 9.00 High-
 lander (26271), 10.00 Ransome
 (31418), 11.00 LA Law (3332),
 12.00 Entertainment Tonight
 (58770), 12.30 Star Trek (31707)
 (409818), 12.30 Comic Strip Live
 (336740), 2.00-6.00am Hit Mix
 Log (371205)

SAT MOVIES
 6.00m Showcases (34610), 6.00
 Bumblebee (1987) (99629)
 7.00m Let Me Go (90074) (9962)
 8.00m The Untouchables (9962)
 10.00 (99252), 10.30 To Dance
 with the White Dog (1993)
 20.00 (99252), 10.30 Normie Rae (1979)
 (2920), 11.00 Addams Family Val-
 entines (99252), 11.30 The Addams
 Club (1994) (99252), 10.00 On
 Starline Sound (1994) (99252)
 starring Steven Seagal and Michael
 Caine (87769), 11.55 The Movie
 Channel (99252), 12.00 The
 Love (1994) (31632), 1.30 The
 Untouchables (528272), 2.30-6.00am
 Nighttime City (957) (383007)

SUNDAY CHANNEL
 6.00m Kidnapers (40532), 7.00m
 The New Adventures of Little Tut
 (953) (52639), 8.00 The Family
 Values (955) (8144), 10.00
 The Untouchables (955) (73163)
 11.00m The Untouchables (955)
 12.00m Entertainment Tonight (955)
 12.30m Star Trek (955)
 1.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (955) (73163)
 Comedy starring Whoopi Goldberg
 (30242), 10.00 Road Race West
 (955) (955) (955) (955)
 11.00m Scooby-Doo and the Ghost School
 (955) (5982), 6.00 Grounding
 Day (1993) (60749), 6.30m The
 Untouchables (9

Pastimes

Chess William Hartston



When I first saw this position (from Spassky-Averkin USSR Championship 1973) I noticed something very unusual about it. It is a "White to play and win" position in which finding the answer is not made any easier by having the words "White to play and win" printed beneath it.

Whenever one sees that magic phrase, one looks for sacrifices, startling moves and heavy threats. In this case, the moves 1.Rg7+4, 1.Nd5, 1.Bc5, 1.Qe5 and 1.Bh6 are questionable up to be analysed. If there is a forced win in the position

(and we know that there is), it has to be something based on the c-file, the back rank and an attack on g7. And since the answer is bound to be something flashy, or the question would not have been posed in the first place, it really ought to be 1.fxe7? or something to do with Nd5 – after a preliminary b4, perhaps.

When I saw Spassky's next move – which was none of those yet mentioned – I resolved to start a collection of positions in which it may be easier to find a winning combination if you are not told one is there.

Twenty-two years later, I still have only this one position. So, rather than wait any longer, I resolved to display my entire collection today.

And in case you still haven't spotted the answer, I can divulge that Spassky played 1.Bc7? Rxe7 2.Qe5 simply winning rook for bishop.

Perplexity

Brainbusters:

1. What is the next number in this series:
4, 2, 3, 4, 6, 2, 4, ...?
2. What is the next letter in this sequence:
F T T E S T F ...?
3. Which is the odd word out:
almost, begin, chintz, dirty, eight, first, ghost?
4. Which is the odd word out:
access, comedic, magic, mosque, sausage, squeaky?
5. What is the next number:
1, 4, 8, 13, 21, 30, 36 ...?

A copy of *Chambers Encyclopaedic Dictionary* awaits the first set of correct answers opened on 9 Nov. Entries for Saturday Pastimes, the *Independent*, 1 Canada Sq, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL.

14 October answer:
Michael Porillo ("The answer is an anagram of 'O' Ball Heroic MF"). Winner: Chris Francis (*Wifemore*).

Bridge Alan Hiron

Game all, dealer North

North	
♠A Q	
♥A K 6 4 3	
♦Q J 10	
♣Q 8 5	

West	East
♠K 7 6 5 2	♠10 8 4 3
♥9 7 5	♥Q J 10 8
♦4 2	♦K 6 5
♣A J 9	♣6 3

South	
♠J 9	
♥2	
♦A 9 8 7 3	
♣K 10 7 4 2	

It would be fair to say that declarer chose the right cards to play in his contract of Three No-trumps on this deal. The

trouble was that he played them in the wrong order. What improvement can you suggest?

North opened One Heart and, rather than hazard a response at the Two level, South bid One No-Trump which North raised directly to game.

West led the five of spades against Three No-Trumps and, to South's relief, the queen held. He followed with the queen of diamonds which won, but East covered the next diamond lead and blocked the suit. It would not help South to duck, for East would simply clear the spades, so he won and cashed the 10. Next he tried the queen of clubs from the table but, needless to

ay, West held off and with no entry to hand, declarer was held to eight tricks.

Ty altering the sequence of play. After the queen of spades was won, lead the queen of clubs at once. Suppose West wins and clears the spades; now the diamond suit brings in five tricks as South has an entry with the king of clubs. If instead West allows the queen of clubs to hold, declarer starts on diamonds. The difference is that he now needs only four tricks from the suit and, when East covers the first or second round as before, South can counter by allowing the king to win.



The big film

After Dark, My Sweet
Sun 10pm C4

Jim Thompson worked with Stanley Kubrick on *The Killing* and *Patsy of Glory*, but it is as the writer of what Rolling Stone called "29 lean and mean novels before his death in 1977" that he will be best remembered. *The Kill-Off* and *The Grifters* were made into compelling low-life films, and James Foley has done an equally good job with *After Dark, My Sweet*, in which Jason Patric plays a boxer strung out after an opponent dies in the ring, with Rachel Ward (above) as the drunken widow with whom he becomes entangled.

Television preview

RECOMMENDED VIEWING THIS WEEKEND
by Gerard Gilbert

Well, ding-dong. Hip, hip-hooray. It's the double wedding of the century (the 18th-century that is) and the happy ending that we've all been waiting for. Have we not? The BBC presumes so, anyway, using the average romantic's love of a good wedding to lure viewers into the climactic episode of *Pride and Prejudice* (Sun BBC1).

Jane gets her Bingley, Eliza gets her Darcy, but not before Barbara Leigh-Hunt, as Lady Catherine de Bourgh, can do her damndest to cast a chill on the proceedings. Mills and Boon written to a genius indeed.

Nearly as excellent is John Caird's canny boiling down of Shakespeare's two-part *Henry IV* (Sat BBC2), in which playboy Plantagenet Prince Hal puts down his mug of sack, realises his destiny and helps dad put down a rebellion of grim northerners.

Dominating a cast that includes Ronald Pickup, Paul Eddington, Corin Redgrave, Josette Simon, Elizabeth Spriggs and Jane Horrocks is David Calder as Falstaff. Mind you, there would be something seriously wrong if Falstaff did not dominate *Henry IV*. Jonathan Firth is all wrong as Hal, though, pushed

off screen by Rufus Sewell in charisma overdrive as Hotspur. It's a testament to Sewell's performance that you fully agree with Falstaff when he comments that, even dead, Hotspur is scary. Needless to say, Shakespeare put it better. By the way—maybe Richard Curtis could confirm—I think I see the genesis of the character, Baldrick, in Falstaff's sidekick Bardolph. "Lucifer's privy kitchen," as he calls him. Very Rowan Atkinson. Very *Blackadder*.

If the kids are hogging the Logo, you can always seek solace in 21st Century Jet (Sat C4), a six-part series looking at the design and construction of Boeing's latest passenger jet, the Boeing 777 (a Boeing 666 would be a more interesting marketing challenge).

Street-Porter's Meas (Sat C4) wasn't recorded in time for a peek, but it's a neat, off-the-cuff idea given the gal's attitude to TV executives (male, middle-aged, middle-class and mediocre; you might remember). Her first guests are cross-dressing comedian Eddie Izzard and BBC Foreign Affairs Editor John Simpson, "both men who choose to thrive in dangerous environments," according to the press release.

"John in Sarajevo, Eddie in Iraq." Dame Judi Dench as a subject for *The South Bank Show* (Sun ITV) might understandably provoke a groan, but I was won over. We follow her preparing for Stephen Sondheim's *A Little Night Music*, from Day One ("don't you just hate Day One") to the dress rehearsal. There's a great scene when Dench unexpectedly breaks down and starts crying while rehearsing *Send in the Clowns*. Director Sean Mathias loves the breakdown and wants to incorporate it. What a racket.

And so to *On the Road Again* (Sat BBC2), in which journeyman Simon Dring persuaded the BBC to pay for him to revisit his youth—following the happy trail from Greece to India. This time Dring's driving, not hitchhiking, and much else has changed since the "happiest days of the Sixties." My favourite encounter was with a Londoner—a certain first prize in any Ben Elton impersonation contest—driving where the wind takes him on his motorbike. "Even to Iran?" wonders Dring. "Even to Iran," agrees Ben Elton, looking increasingly dubious.



The big match

Rugby League: England vs Australia
Sat 2.25pm BBC1

As widely predicted, the Rugby League Centenary World Cup Final is a re-run of the Wembley encounter between England and Australia of three weeks ago, which the hosts won, without the help of Martin Offiah (above), who plays today. Australia had the harder semi-final, being taken to extra time before overcoming New Zealand. But, as sports cliché-mongers the world over will tell you, anything can happen. Just think back to the Rugby Union World Cup Final this year, when South Africa pulled off a big surprise by beating the much-fancied All Blacks.

Saturday Television and Radio

BBC1

- 7.25 News, Weather (3813454).
- 7.30 SuperTed (R) (4078995).
- 7.35 Willy Fog (R) (S) (9858461).
- 8.00 The Adams Family (R) (26799).
- 8.30 The New Adventures of Superman (R) (4267867).
- 9.15 Live and Kicking. England soccer star David Platt and actor Jimmy Nail join Andi Peters and Emma Forbes in the studio, while MNS provide the music (S) (6066512).
- 12.12 Weather (4090515).
- 12.15 Grandstand. 12.20 Football Focus. 12.50 Racing from Ascot. 12.55 The United House Development Novices Hurdle. 1.05 News. 1.10 Motor Racing: the final practice for tomorrow's Japanese Grand Prix. 1.15 Rugby League: Preview of this afternoon's World Cup Final at Wembley. 1.25 Racing from Ascot. 1.30 The Bagshot Handicap Steeplechase. 1.40 Snooker: Grand Prix semi-final action from Sunderland. 2.00 Racing from Ascot. 2.05 The United House Construction Handicap Steeplechase. 2.15 Snooker. 2.25 Rugby League: Live coverage of the World Cup Final from Wembley. Kick-off at 2.50pm. See *The Big Match*. 4.40 Final Score (2061248).
- 5.20 News, Weather (638683).
- 5.30 Local News, Weather (268867).
- 5.35 Dad's Army. The Desperate Drive of Corporal Jones (R) (144866).
- 6.05 Jim Davidson's Generation Game. Leslie Grantham is a guest (S) (866288).
- 7.00 Noel's House Party. Keith Barron receives a Gotcha award (S) (531886).
- 7.50 The National Lottery Live. Neil Sedaka activates the balls (S) (32747).
- 8.05 Casualty. Charlie makes a decision about Baz as an armed police stake-out gets messy (S) (750225).
- 8.55 News, Sport, Weather (Followed by National Lottery Update) (904409).
- 9.15 *Deadly Identity* (Ivan Passer 1991 US). Stop me if you've heard it. Private detective Mark Harmon is investigating the disappearance of the husband of client Miri Rogers, when he finds himself becoming fatally attracted to her. So far so noir. M Emmet Walsh in the supporting cast is one of the few consolations (8620848).
- 10.40 Match of the Day. Aston Villa vs Everton, and QPR vs Nottingham Forest (S) (901139).
- 11.45 The Stand Up Show (S) (122799).
- 12.15 *A Bullet for the General* (Damiano Damiani 1967 It). Politically-conscious spaghetti western set during the Mexican revolution, with a lead character called El Churcho and co-starring Klaus Kinski (190981).
- 2.10 Weather (5327610). To 2.15am.
- REGIONS. Wales: 4.55pm Wales on Saturday. 5.30 Wales on Saturday. NI: 5.00pm Northern Ireland Results. 5.30 Inside Ulster News. 2.10 News.

BBC2

- 8.20 Open University: The Developing World. 8.45 Drifting Continents. 9.10 Our Health in Our Hands. 9.35 Becoming a Student (4142148).
- 10.00 Chomanga (S) (8147643).
- 10.40 Video Byte. Asian pop (2729867).
- 10.50 Network East (S) (6556577).
- 11.50 Film 95 with Barry Norman (5593770).
- 12.20 *Saturday Matinee: Odd Man Out* (Carol Reed 1946 UK). In the first half of a James Mason double-bill, Mason plays an IRA man, fatally wounded during a fund-raising robbery and seeking refuge in the mean streets of Belfast. The suspense and the poignant ideas make uneasy bedfellows, but Mason is riveting and the photography (by Robert Krasker) a delight (483157).
- 2.10 *Saturday Matinee: Island in the Sun* (Robert Rossen 1957 UK/US). Overheated tosh bearing scant relation to Alec Waugh's source novel, whose plot (race relations in the British-ruled West Indies) was nevertheless a daring subject for Darryl F Zanuck in his first feature as an independent producer. Starring James Mason, Joan Fontaine, and Joan Collins (197848).
- 4.05 The Oprah Winfrey Show. A black man who passed himself off as white—and they don't mean OJ Simpson (R) (S) (2941454).
- 4.45 TOTP (S) (812777).
- 5.30 Snooker—Grand Prix. Live semi-final action from Sunderland (S) (698225).
- 6.10 *Pride and Prejudice* 5/6. Second-sitting Austen as Wickham threatens to ruin airhead Lydia (S) (85861).
- 7.05 News and Sport, Weather (996335).
- 7.20 The Boss. Pat Collings, headteacher at a large Derbyshire comprehensive, takes us through the stresses of education in the 1990s (627157).
- 8.10 Performance: Henry IV. See Preview (4632111).
- 9.35 Interval. A short animation while you queue up in the kitchen for a gin and tonic and a bag of nuts (615436).
- 9.40 Performance: Henry IV (2673225).
- 11.05 Have I Got News for You. Gordon Kennedy and Paula Yates from last night (S) (698003).
- 11.35 Snooker—Grand Prix (S) (824206).
- 12.40 *Hell in the Pacific* (John Boorman 1968 US). It's the Second World War, and American pilot Les Marvin and Japanese sailor Toshio Mifune find themselves stranded alone on a Pacific island. As neither speaks the other's language, they talk to themselves a lot, launch a small-scale war and learn about brotherhood (162368).
- 2.20 *The Big Bus* (James Frawley 1976 US). A nuclear-powered bus makes its maiden voyage from New York to Denver in this so-so spoof of disaster movies (3329610).
- 3.45 Japanese Grand Prix. Live coverage through the night (63542). To 6.00am.

ITV/London

- 6.00 GMTV. 6.00 News, Weather. 6.10 Re-Wind. 6.40 Eat Your Words. 7.10 Barney and Friends. 7.45-8.55 Saturday Disney. The guests are Donna Air and Brenda Adams from *By Your Side*. 8.55 Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (716683).
- 9.25 Scratchy & Co. A Halloween special with magician Simon Drake, Meat Loaf and MNS (S) (2272206).
- 11.30 The Chart Show (R) (S) (49886).
- 12.30 Du'a's World (S) (83190).
- 1.00 News, Weather (64614312).
- 1.05 Local News, Weather (64613683).
- 1.10 Champions League Special. Preview of next week's action featuring poor old Blackburn and Glasgow Rangers (863335).
- 1.45 International Rugby. Italy vs New Zealand, live from Bologna. Kick off is at 2.00pm and Jonah Lomu is in the starting line-up. Alastair Hignell has all the further details (739633).
- 3.45 Movies, Games and Videos (873886).
- 4.15 Speakeasy Does the Business. This week's "dream job" is presenting News at Ten (S) (824645).
- 4.45 News, Sports, Weather (5558119).
- 5.05 Local News, Sport, Weather (3225616).
- 5.20 New Baywatch. Mitch's mother starts going down with Alzheimer's—which, in this case, is probably a blessing (S) (6572111).
- 6.15 Gladiators. Contestants from Fife, Staines and Tyneside tackle grown men and women who work out, use assumed names and eat raw eggs for lunch (S) (897751).
- 7.15 Blind Date. When Austen met Liz, and Jerry met Kid (Including Lottery Result) (S) (893935).
- 8.15 Raise the Roof. A cottage in the Cotswolds on offer (S) (109848).
- 8.45 News, National Lottery Update, Weather (Then Local Weather) (902041).
- 9.00 *An Innocent Man* (Peter Yates 1989 US). Sad big-house yarn in which Tom Selleck is wrongfully imprisoned after drugs are planted in his house. With F Murray Abraham and Lella Robinson (S) (4664646).
- 11.05 The Big Fight—Lyle England's Billy Scherw defends his Commonwealth lightweight title against Dita Molefane of South Africa (171633).
- 11.55 There's Only One Brian Moore. Thankfully. Yet more archive football, in this series from the 1970s (archive football). In this series from the 1970s (archive football).
- 12.55 American Gladiators (S) (7795097).
- 1.45 The Big E (Followed by ITN News Headlines) (S) (5467287).
- 2.35 BFM (S) (4283368).
- 3.30 Best of British Motorsport (75879184).
- 3.55 *Nagato Marsh Mystery: Opening Night* (Brian McDuff 1978 UK). George Baker plays Chief Detective Inspector Almey as a suspicious suicide takes place in London's theatre district (818078). To 5.30am.

Channel 4

- 6.05 Sesame Street (R) (4068751).
- 7.05 Ovide (R) (2059428).
- 7.15 Sonic the Hedgehog (R) (9738393).
- 7.40 Willy Fog (R) (S) (9858461).
- 8.00 Trans World Sport (36003).
- 9.00 The Morning Line (S) (61111).
- 10.00 Blitz! American football (S) (46206).
- 11.00 Gazzetta Football Italia (69770).
- 12.00 Sign On (S) (72596).
- 12.30 The Great Maratha (9424916).
- 12.55 The Late Late Show (S) (9821634).
- 1.55 Boogie Doodle. Norman McLaren abstract animation (25675041).
- 2.00 Channel 4 Racing from Newmarket and Wetherby. Newsweek: the 2.10, 2.45, 3.20 and 3.55 races, from Wetherby; the 2.25, 3.00, 3.35 and 4.20 (S) (97417193).
- 4.35 *J'accuse: England's Jane Austen* repeat for Fay Weldon's *Without Walls* diatribe against Austenmania—the almost religious feelings that Middle England directs towards its favourite literary daughter, Jane Austen (R) (6321041).
- 5.05 Brookside Omnibus (R) (S) (3748645).
- 6.30 Reply to Reply (S) (577).
- 7.00 The People's Parliament. Actually the large bulk of The People will currently be tuned into *Blind* and *Never Mind*. Racist humour is the topic (S) (7799).
- 8.00 21st Century Jet: Design for Flying. The design and construction of the Boeing 777. See Preview (3119).
- 9.00 The Carmichael Lawn. 1/5. Infamous, all-banking version of Mary Wesley's novel that begins in August 1939 and follows the changing lives of one family, Felicity Kendal, Paul Eddington and Jennifer Ehle (Elizabeth in *Pride and Prejudice*) star (R) (S) (6587157).
- 10.05 Rory Bremner—Who Else? (S) (990683).
- 10.45 Street-Porter's Men. Janet's first two men are Eddie Izzard and BBC Foreign Affairs Editor John Simpson. See Preview (S) (844190).
- 11.20 *Three Times Blood Sports for All*—The Punk Kes. Are tribes inherently interesting? Don't "tribes" take up too much media attention as it is? Anyway, on we go. Carl Hunter's film is about two young men from Boodle who go rat-hunting every weekend to let out their violent feelings (220751).
- 11.30 *The Warriors* (Walter Hill 1979 US). Seminal urban western set in New York (297799).
- 1.15 Dog Fight. Drama in a dog of youths plans to hold a dog fight in a deserted warehouse (2128898).
- 1.30 Eight-Tray Gangster. Repeat Wings film in which a Los Angeles street gang member tells his story (R) (S) (14165).
- 2.30 Awayday. Football hooligans (2527639).
- 2.45 *Cash Boy* (Lewis Gilbert 1953 UK). Supposedly realistic portrait of teenage delinquency in 1950s London (5258639).
- 4.05 Passengers (S) (8120558). To 4.55am.

ITV/Regions

- ANGLIA
As London except: 12.30pm News, Games and Videos (83190). 1.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 6.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 7.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 8.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 9.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 10.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 11.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 12.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 1.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 2.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 3.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.35 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.40 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.45 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.50 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 4.55 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.00 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.05 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.10 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.15 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.20 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.25 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.30 Anglia News and Weather (64613683). 5.35 Anglia News and Weather (64